

Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies

School of International Studies

Course/Programme: **Ph.D.**

Course Title: **India and Southeast Asia (SA 657)**

Course Type: **Optional**

Course Teacher: **Dr. Jaikhlong Basumatary**

Credits: **04**

Contact Hours: **04hrs/week**

Course Description:

This course titled, “India and Southeast Asia” is designed to introduce scholars of Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies on India’s enhanced linkages with the Southeast Asian region particularly in the post-Cold War era. The course will examine India’s foreign policy approach towards Southeast Asia while identifying areas of convergence and divergence. The course will highlight the importance of Southeast Asian region in the Indo-Pacific construct. The course will examine India’s imperative to have shared interest with Southeast Asia, given India is considered an important power in the Indo-Pacific construct. The course is designed for Ph.D. scholars interested in pursuing their Ph.D. programme in Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies (SIS/JNU). The course requires its scholars to attend and actively participate in class each week.

Course Objectives

- To understand India’s engagement with Southeast Asia.
- To understand the significance of roles India and Southeast Asia can play in the Indo-Pacific Construct

Learning Outcomes

Scholars who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Demonstrate proficiency in India’s foreign policy towards Southeast Asia particularly in the post-Cold War era.
- Explain the main drivers of India-Southeast Asia relations
- Describe the complexities that India and Southeast Asia have to navigate to be major players in the Indo-Pacific construct.
- Illustrate how enhanced relationship between India and Southeast Asia will be able to tackle major issues facing the Indo-Pacific region.

- Interpret improved security environment in the Indo-Pacific with enhanced India-Southeast Asia relations.
- Critically analyse published studies on the subject.
- Recognise major impediments in the pursuit of constructive relationship between India and Southeast Asia
- Demonstrate proficiency in objectively assessing and interpreting the political dynamics of India and Southeast and its implications in the Indo-Pacific region.

Evaluation Method

- Class Participation & Assignments – 25%
- Mid-Semester Assessment (Term Paper/Book Review) – 25%
- End Semester Exam – 50%

Course Content

1. Southeast Asia in India's Foreign Policy

- Locating Southeast Asia in India's foreign policy
- Significance of Southeast Asia
- Historical links between India and Southeast Asia
- Post-independence proactive policies and the influence of Southeast Asia on India's foreign policy

2. The Cold War Rift – From mid-1950s Till the End of 1980s

- The Bandung Conference and its aftermath
- The Cold War and its impact
- Differences between India and Indonesia
- Developments in Indochina
- The Cambodia issue

3. The Look East Policy: Compulsions and Rationale

- The Indian Navy and Southeast Asia
- The end of the Cold War and its impact on India's relations with Southeast Asia
- The initiation of the Look East policy – initial motives
- Southeast Asian responses
- Act East Policy and its attributes

4. The Political Dimension of India's Engagement with Southeast Asia

- Development of institutional linkages with ASEAN and other regional multilateral frameworks
- Bilateral relations with select ASEAN member states

5. Forging of Economic Links

- Attempts at strengthening of economic links
- Bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)
- India-ASEAN FTA

6. Strategic Interactions and Defence Diplomacy

- Circumstances that enabled India to evolve strong links with countries with Southeast Asia
- Joint Exercises
- Strategic partnerships
- Training
- Arms Exports

7. India, China and Southeast Asia

- China and Southeast Asia – Brief outline
- China factor in India's Southeast Asia policy

8. India, US and Southeast Asia

- The emergence of Indo-Pacific as new geo-strategic and geo-economic template
- Regional balance of power and India-US cooperation
- India-US Dialogue on Asia-Pacific

9. India, Japan and Southeast Asia

- Convergence of interests
- India-Japan Cooperation in Asia-Pacific

10. India-Japan-US Trilateral Dialogue

11. India-Myanmar Relations

- Brief background
- Renewed interest in the early 1990s
- The China Factor
- India's other Security concerns
- Current status

12. Select Bilateral Relations

- Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Singapore

13. India's Look East Policy: Critical Assessment and Future Prospects

14. Geostrategic and Geo-economic significance of the Indo-Pacific

15. Act East Policy

Select Readings

- Mayilvaganan, M (ed.) (2022), *ASEAN and India-ASEAN Relations: Navigating Shifting Geopolitics*, Abingdon: Routledge
- Bajpae, Chietigj (2022), *China in India's Post-Cold War Engagement with Southeast Asia*, New York: Routledge
- ASEAN-India Joint Statement (2021) on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific for Peace, Stability, and Prosperity in the Region.
- Gomez, Edmund Terence, Cheong, Kee Cheok (et.al.) (eds.) (2018), *China, India and Southeast Asia: Paths to Development and State-Society Relations*, Abingdon: Routledge
- Jeshrurun, Chandran (ed.) (1993), *China, India, Japan and the Security of Southeast Asia*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
- Naidu, GVC (2004), "Whiter the Look East Policy: India and Southeast Asia", *Strategic Analysis*, 28 (2); 331-346
- Khurana, Gurpreet S (2005), "Cooperation Among Maritime Security Forces: Imperative for India and Southeast Asia", *Strategic Analysis*, 29 (2): 295-316
- Bateman, Sam (2012), "Asian Maritime Power in the 21st Century – Strategic Transactions China, India and Southeast Asia", *Journal of the Indian Ocean Region*, 8 (1): 99-101
- Yahya, Faizal Bin (2016), "The Influence of China and India on Smaller Nations in Southeast Asia: A Study of Singapore", *The Round Table*, 105 (6): 723-736
- Grare, Frederic and Mattoo, Amitabh (eds.) (2001), *India and ASEAN: The Politics of India's Look East Policy*, New Delhi: Manohar Publishers
- *Annual Reports*, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, Various Years
- *Annual Reports*, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, Various Years
- Ayooob, Mohammed (1987), "Southeast Asia in India's Foreign Policy", *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 19 (1)
- Chanda, Nayan (2000), "After the Bomb: India is Forging Ties with Japan and Vietnam as it Seeks to Establish itself as a Player in Regional Security", *Far Eastern Economic Review*
- Chang, Felix K (1996), "Beijing's Reach in the South China Sea", *Orbis*
- Christie (1995), *India's Navy Strategy and the Role of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands*. Working Paper No. 291

- Das, Ajay Kumar (2013), “Soft and Hard Power in India’s Strategy Towards Southeast Asia”, *India Review*, 12 (3): 165-185
- Devare, S(2006), *India and Southeast Asia: Towards Security Convergence*, Singapore: ISEAS
- Hong, Z (2007), “India and China: Rivals or Partners in Southeast Asia”, *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 29 (1): 121-142
- M, Malik (2004), *India-China Relations: Giant Stir, Cooperate and Compete*, Honolulu: APCSS
- Naidu, GVC, “India’s Strategic Relations with Southeast Asia” in Baladas Ghoshal (ed.) (1996), *India and Southeast Asia*, New Delhi: Konark Publishers
- Panikkar, KM (1945), *India and the India Ocean: An Essay on the Influence of Sea Power on Indian History*, London: George Allen and Unwin
- Ram, Amar Nath (ed.) (2012), *Two Decades of India’s Look East Policy*, New Delhi: Manohar
- Sinha, V K, “India and Southeast Asia” in AB Shah (ed.) (1966), *India’s Defence and Foreign Policies*, Bombay Manaktalas
- Sriharan, Kripa (1996), *The ASEAN Region in India’s Foreign Policy*, Aldershot: Dartmouth
- Sridharan, K (2004), “Wooing the Generals: India’s New Burma Policy”, *Contemporary Southeast Asia*
- Suryanaryan, V, “The Relevance of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in India’s Policy Towards Southeast Asia”, in V. Suryanaryan and V. Sudersen (eds.) (1994), *Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Challenges of Development*, New Delhi: Konark Publishers
- Thakur, Ramesh (1994), *The politics of Economics of India’s Foreign Policy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press
- Vajpayee, A B, *India’s Perspective on ASEAN and the Asia Pacific Region* (Annual Singapore Lecture, 9 April 2022) at <http://www.aseansec.org/2787.htm>
- Yahya, F (2003), “India and Southeast Asia: Revisited”, *Contemporary Southeast Asia*