



Southeast Asia Studies Goals

Southeast Asia concentrators learn an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the nations, states, institutions and peoples of Southeast Asia in the twenty-first century. Students will gain in-depth knowledge and critical analytical and problem-solving skills for the demanding working environment of Southeast Asia. This will be obtained through a rigorous and policy-oriented curriculum and program-sponsored forums that examine domestic and international relations of Southeast Asian countries, covering history, politics, economics, development and security. Through extensive alumni networks developed by the program, students will be assisted in undertaking direct in-country summer internships that combine theory and practice, and experience in particular professional fields. Students will be proficient (speaking, listening and reading) in at least one modern language of Southeast Asia: Bahasa Indonesian, Burmese, Thai or Vietnamese.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate a nuanced understanding of complex issues governing the political and economic framework of Southeast Asia, in contemporary and historical contexts;
2. Develop analytical skills and methodology relevant to Southeast Asia that will retain value over time;
3. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of individual nations of Southeast Asia, the regional organization (ASEAN), and Southeast Asia's relationship with the United States and the major Asian powers (China, India, and Japan);
4. Demonstrate an intellectual background on Southeast Asia, covering issues on international relations, security, the policymaking process, democratization, human rights and economic development, in order to conduct well-informed analysis of current developments and provide sharp insight into new challenges facing Southeast Asia;
5. Develop a familiarity with major theoretical concepts applied to the analysis of Southeast Asia's domestic, regional, and foreign policy;
6. Apply hands-on experience acquired during summer internships to post-graduation challenges in professional settings, such as government, business, NGO, and academia; and
7. Speak and write Bahasa Indonesian, Burmese, Thai or Vietnamese at a level of professional proficiency.