Summer and Southeast Asia study abroad programs beckon

No Friday lecture this week

1. Next CSEAS lecture: Ian Baird, University of Wisconsin-Madison, to speak April 8
2. Study abroad in Malaysia/Brunei; deadline extended, partial funding available
3. Study abroad in Thailand; deadline to apply April 15, partial funding available
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1. Next CSEAS lecture April 8: Ian Baird on the rise of the Brao in Cambodia, 1979–89

Ian Baird, associate professor of geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will present “A Golden Age? The Rise of the Brao in Northeastern Cambodia during the Period of Vietnamese Occupation, 1979–89” at next week’s center lecture from noon to 12:50 p.m. Friday, April 8, in Room 110, Campus Life Building. “In this presentation, I explain some of the reasons why the Brao, and others in the northeastern provinces of Ratanakiri and Stung Treng, generally have such positive recollections of the Vietnamese occupation period,” Baird says. “This presentation demonstrates the importance of ethnicity and regional differences in Cambodia when assessing recent history, and of politics in affecting the ways in which the past is remembered.” Bring your lunch and feed your mind.

2. Study abroad in Malaysia/Brunei; deadline extended, partial funding available

The deadline to apply for the May 15–June 3 Malaysia/Brunei: History and Culture of Southeast Asia study abroad program has been extended to April 1. The three-week program led by associate history professor Eric Jones incorporates a home-stay experience with significant time spent in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Penang, the jungles of Sarawak and Borneo, and the Islamic center of Brunei. In addition to whatever grants/scholarships the students may be awarded, there is a $175 NIU scholarship, given through the Study Abroad Office, for the next four students who sign up. For details, see Jones’s video on YouTube. For information about financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. The deadline to apply for study abroad travel grants is May 6.

3. Study abroad in Thailand; deadline to apply April 15, partial funding available

There is still time to apply for associate anthropology professor Andrea Molnar’s four-week May 30–June 25 study abroad program in Thailand for graduate and undergraduate students. “The course introduces students to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand, the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups, and the practical implications of these relations in everyday Thai life,” Molnar says. The program will include lectures, briefings, field trips, and
visits to Thai sites including temples, museums, the Royal Palace, markets, and beaches. On field visits, NIU students will be paired with Thai students. The deadline to apply for the program is **April 15** with financial aid available to qualified applicants. For information about financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.

4. **Kudos: CSEAS Assistant Director Kheang Un receives a Fulbright**

* Congratulations to CSEAS Assistant Director Kheang Un, assistant professor of political science, who has been selected for a Fulbright Award for the 2011–12 academic year to go to Cambodia to research the country’s progress toward democratization and to lecture at the Royal University of Phnom Penh, with which NIU has a memorandum of understanding. “This is an excellent opportunity for Dr. Un to strengthen his research and at the same time link CSEAS even more closely to our partner universities,” said CSEAS Director Jim Collins. “It also acknowledges his importance as one of America’s principal Southeast Asian scholars specializing in Cambodia. We warmly congratulate him on his achievement.”

5. **CSEAS joins delegation at senator’s office to press case for educational, cultural exchange**

As the U.S. State Department faces deep funding cuts in its international educational and cultural exchange programs, CSEAS Director Jim Collins was invited to join a delegation led by Mark Overmann of the Washington, D.C.-based [Alliance for International Educational and Cultural Exchange](http://www.allianceforie.org/) to visit the Chicago office of U.S. Senator Mark Kirk on **March 23**. Programs targeted by the proposed 21 percent budget cut include Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA) appointments, the Critical Language Scholarship program, and both the Southeast Asia and Philippine youth leadership programs, run by the CSEAS and NIU’s International Training Office respectively. Overmann and Collins, along with David Comp from the University of Chicago, Peggy Parfenoff of [World Chicago](http://worldchicago.org), and Claudia Curran of the [Center for Cultural Interchange](http://www.culturalinterchange.org), met for nearly an hour with Matthew Abbot, director of constituent services for the newly elected Republican senator. “During the cordial 45-minute meeting, Matthew Abbot, who is himself studying Persian, commented knowledgeably and sympathetically about the problems touched upon,” Collins said. “Speaking as a language teacher, I insisted that the teaching of critical languages, like Indonesian, was a security issue that could not be separated from the initiatives of the Department of Defense. Abbot pointed out that Senator Kirk has a
record in the House of supporting these global outreach programs, but reminded us that the new forces of Congress are pledged to reduce funding.”

6. Still seeking two or three host households for SEAYLP

NIU is still looking for two or three local households to act as hosts April 10–22 for two male high school students and two adult male leaders participating in the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Twenty-two students and four adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand will be involved in the upcoming spring session. Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Host families provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, meals during one free weekend (April 16–17), and transportation to and from classes at NIU. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator (and past host) Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

7. Democracy in Southeast Asia theme for April 23 student conference

“Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia” will be the topic of discussion and 15-minute presentations of papers by students at the Southeast Asia Club’s annual spring student conference, coming up Saturday, April 23, in Altgeld Hall. University of Chicago historian Mark Bradley, a specialist in postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history, will give the keynote address. The conference begins at 9 a.m. with the keynote address scheduled to lead off the afternoon session. A cash prize will be awarded to the best undergraduate and graduate papers. The conference is free and open to all NIU faculty, staff, and students, and interested community members. For details, see the conference website.

8. Historian George Spencer leads Lifetime Learning Institute Burma group this week

NIU history professor emeritus George Spencer will discuss British colonial rule and the George Orwell Burma connection at this week’s Wednesday Burma study group offered by NIU’s Lifelong Learning Institute. The study group will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. March 30 in the Sky Room in the Holmes Student Center. Former CSEAS associate Arlene Neher is convening the group to learn about the history, culture, geography, politics, international relations, and everyday life in Burma with current Center for Burma Studies Director and art historian Catherine Raymond, history professor...
Kenton Clymer, and emeritus faculty Spencer, Richard Cooler, and Clark Neher plus several international students from Burma. The study group will meet 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through May 4. Suggested readings include Donald Stadtner’s *Sacred Sites of Burma*, George Orwell’s *Burmese Days*, Emma Larkin’s *Finding George Orwell in Burma*, and Aung San Suu Kyi’s *Letters from Burma*. For details, contact the institute at 815-753-5200 or LASEP@niu.edu.

9. International Training Office seeking host families for PYLP program
NIU’s International Training Office (ITO) is looking for area families to act as hosts in May for twenty-two Muslim and non-Muslim youth and four adult leaders from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao who are coming to NIU in April to participate in the eighth Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP), directed by center associates Susan Russell (anthropology) and Lina Davide-Ong (ITO). The six-week program runs April 16–May 21; the home-stay segment is May 1–14. Contact host family coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

10. Save the dates: Southeast Asia Club activities, Khmer studies forum
- **April 4**: Next meeting of the Southeast Asia Club, 6 to 7 p.m., Room 480, DuSable Hall. Last meeting will be held at same time and location April 18. Other club activities include Southeast Asia Culture Night, April 15; a service project on NIU Cares Day April 16 (sign up on the website and select Southeast Asia Club team), the annual student conference April 23; and a Hope Haven service project. For details, e-mail niuseaclub@gmail.com.
- **April 29–30**: Third Annual Khmer Studies Forum at Ohio University Center, sponsored by Center for Southeast Asian Studies there. See Conferences below.

11. ASEAN secretary-general to speak at UI-UC Southeast Asian Week
Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, secretary-general of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), will be the keynote speaker April 2 capping off Southeast Asian Week this week at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The week-long event at the Activities and Recreation Center, organized by a coalition eight Southeast Asian student organizations, will feature presentations, exhibitions, and speeches, including Pitsuwan’s. The secretary-general will be speaking from 3 to 4 p.m., followed by a cultural showcase with performances and displays. For details, contact Thai Student Association President Fikri Pitsuwan at pitsuwa1@illinois.edu.

12. Job opportunities and money for study
*University of Washington / Seattle*
- **Lecturer in Khmer Language.** Fifty-percent position beginning fall 2011, annually renewable through June 2014. Native or near-native language proficiency and experience in teaching Khmer is required, and an MA preferred in Khmer language and culture, language pedagogy, or a relevant field. Deadline to apply: April 15. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy, sample of representative teaching materials if available, and three letters of recommendation by e-
mail to Sara Van Fleet, saravf@uw.edu, or mail to: Chair, Khmer Search Committee, c/o Sara Van Fleet (Associate Director, Southeast Asia Center), Southeast Asia Center, Box 353650, University of Washington, Seattle WA 98195. NEW

University of Wisconsin / Madison
- **Senior Lecturer in Southeast Asian History.** Three days a week during fall semester of 2011–12 academic year. Master’s degree required; all but dissertation preferred. **Application due: April 1.**

University of British Columbia / Vancouver
- **Lecturer in Indonesian Language and Culture.** 12-month position teaching language and culture courses beginning July 1. **Applications reviewed starting March 31.**

Indonesian Studies / Germany
- **Assistant professorship in Southeast Asian Studies** at University of Frankfurt. Six-year appointment, non-tenure track. **Deadline to apply: March 31.**
- Professorship in Austronesian Studies at University of Hamburg. Lifetime appointment, tenure track. **Deadline to apply: April 7.**

East-West Center / Hawaii
- **Graduate Degree Fellowship.** Master’s and doctoral funding for graduate students to participate in center’s educational and research programs while pursuing advanced degree at University of Hawaii.

13. Conferences and calls for papers
- **AAS-ICAS Joint Conference,** March 31–April 3, Honolulu, Hawaii. Association of Asian Studies and International Convention of Asia Scholars annual meeting. See list of **Southeast Asia panels,** the entire conference program and other details on the conference website.
- **3rd Annual Khmer Studies Forum,** April 29–30, Athens, Ohio. Sponsored by Ohio University Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Free. For details, see conference website. For transportation and accommodation information, e-mail cseas@ohio.edu or Sinoun Kim at sinounkim@gmail.com.
- **Visions of the Future, 11th International Conference on Thai Studies,** July 26–28, Bangkok. Hosted by Mahidol University and the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia. For details, e-mail thaistudies2011@gmail.com.
- **ASEASUK Conference,** Sept. 9–11, Magdalene College, Cambridge. Papers being sought by Malay/Indonesian manuscript studies panel on all aspects of the study of the writing traditions of maritime Southeast Asia. **Deadline for abstracts: March 30.** Contact Annabel.Gallop@bl.uk.
- **Enriching Future Generations: Education Promoting Indonesian Self-Development,** June 28–29, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Fourth international Indonesia forum co-sponsored by Yale and Yogyakarta State universities. **Deadline for abstracts: March 31.** Send to Frank Dhont, Yale University, at frank.dhont@yale.edu. See conference website.
- **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs,** Oct. 28–30, St. Paul, MN. Annual conference at Macalester College invites submissions pertaining to Asia and its subregions from all
academic disciplines. **Deadline for abstracts: June 1.** For details, see the [conference website](#).

### 14. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- The Chicago-based [Friends of the Gamelan](#) will present an evening of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by artistic director Joko Sutrisno of Minneapolis, at 6 p.m. Sunday, **May 1**, at Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. The group also offers beginning gamelan lessons and a performance ensemble. Contact [info@chicagogamelan.org](mailto:info@chicagogamelan.org).
- The [Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute](#) is a non-profit group dedicated to the education, preservation, and promotion of Thai culture and fine arts in the Chicago area through classes and performances. The group is located in the Boys and Girls Club, 3400 S. Emerald St., Chicago. For details, call 312-725-0640 or write Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute, 1960 Oak Knoll Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045.
- The Indonesian Consulate General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see the consulate [website](#).
- The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) holds **free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons** Sundays at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.

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**CSEAS Quick Links**

[CSEAS Calendar](#)

[Southeast Asia Club](#)

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If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance at any center-sponsored event, contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or [nschunem@niu.edu](mailto:nschunem@niu.edu). If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.