



Study Abroad Malaysia: History and Culture of Southeast Asia

July 22 – August 10, 2012

This study abroad program is coordinated by the Northern Illinois University Study Abroad Office (SAO), in cooperation with the NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Department of History.

PROGRAM DATES: The program will officially begin on Sunday, July 22, 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and will end on Friday, August 10. Students will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements in order to arrive in downtown Kuala Lumpur at the latest by 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, 2012.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Eric A. Jones, assistant professor of History in the NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Professor Jones is an expert on Malaysian and Indonesian history and teaches courses on Southeast Asia and Asia. He is a fluent Malay speaker (among other languages) and has years of experience with the region including having lived in Malaysia and Indonesia.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW/OBJECTIVES: The primary purpose of this program is to provide participants with the opportunity to learn and experience the history of Malaysia and the Malay world, on site and in a living laboratory. Because of its unique history, Malaysia, unlike any other country, is comprised of significant Malay, Chinese and Indian populations. For example, students interested in religion can interact with large Islamic, Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, animist and syncretic groups. Those interested in race and culture and its intersections can experience all of Asia (Arab, Indian, Chinese and Malay) all in one place. Finally, Malaysia is home to the world's once-greatest entrepot and the city that lured Columbus to cross the sea, Melaka, where history is alive and on display.

PROGRAM SITE(S): The program will take place in Malaysia. Significant time will also be spent in the axis of Southeast Asian history - Melaka, with stays in the Chinese cultural stronghold of Penang, the jungles of Sarawak, Borneo and the agricultural Cameron Highlands.

HIGHLIGHTS: Participants will visit many museums and historical sites in Malaysia. In Kuala Lumpur, the group will visit flourishing Indian, Chinese and Malay communities and sites including one of the world's largest mosques, the national museum, and the tallest buildings in the world – Petronas Towers. Melakan highlights including the Portuguese Fortress, the Sultan's Palace, the Dutch Courthouse, the Chinese Temple, and the Anglican Church, and Hindu Temple

in addition to a visit to a nearby village. We'll continue on to the stately Chinese bastion of Penang, focusing on Buddhism and the Chinese contribution. Making our way to the heart of Borneo, we'll be based out of Kuching, Sarawak and focus on environmental history and the politics of conservation with visits to see the endangered orangutan.

PROGRAM AUDIENCE: Space is limited and qualified applicants will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. This program will be of interest to a large number of NIU students. All undergraduate and graduate students interested in the history of Southeast Asia and/or affiliated with the NIU Center for Southeast Asian Studies can find something of interest in Malaysia – with significant Thai, Indonesian, and Singaporean populations living within its borders. Chinese, Indian, and Malay culture will all be front and center in our daily interactions including immersion in Islamic, Buddhist and Hindu traditions. More broadly, students interested in comparative religion, comparative gender relations, colonial and post-colonial culture, globalization, and interaction of the Western with the Non-Western could make use of the program.

INSTRUCTION METHOD: Contact hours normally include a combination of daily lecture, historical site visits, and discussion. Also, time will be appointed for individual meetings and discussion/research help. Instruction will be provided primarily by Professor Jones but will include guest lectures from local specialists. All students are required to submit daily journal entries or reaction papers, reflecting on the day's curriculum and in-country experience. Daily assignments will also include interviews with Malaysians and work with periodicals and other local media. Everyone is expected to complete the daily reading to be able to contribute to class discussion. Graduate students will be required to pre-submit a reading/research plan and separate graduate seminars will be held in addition to lengthier paper requirements. Students will be graded on attendance, participation and academic performance.

PROGRAM ACADEMIC CREDIT: For satisfactory participation in the program, participants will receive 3 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate credit in the following NIU course:

UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT

HIST 449 – History of Malaysia and Singapore	3 semester hours
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Description: The Malay world from prehistory to the present. Topics include early Malay trade, classical Malay culture, British imperialism, Chinese immigration, and the modern states of Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei.

Program Pre-Requisite: At least sophomore standing.

GRADUATE CREDIT

HIST 549 – History of Malaysia and Singapore	3 semester hours
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Description: The Malay world from prehistory to the present. Topics include early Malay trade, classical Malay culture, British imperialism, Chinese immigration, and the modern states of Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei.

HONORS CREDIT: Qualified students may also elect to receive Honors credit for their course with the approval of Professor Jones. For more information please contact the University Honors Office.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION PROCEDURES: The program is open to undergraduate and graduate level students who meet the NIU general admission requirements, and who are interested in history. Currently enrolled students must meet College of Liberal Arts and Science course GPA requirements. Graduate level students must also meet NIU Graduate School admission, course and GPA requirements.

Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing at the time of application. Students who are on academic or disciplinary probation are not eligible to participate in study abroad programs. **Applicants must participate in the *entire* program and satisfy NIU undergraduate or graduate admission and course requirements.**

Students cannot have any encumbrances against their NIU records. Any encumbrances placed on a student's records by NIU (i.e., the Graduate School, Undergraduate Admissions, Bursar's Office, Accounts Receivable, Registration and Records, Health Services, Parking Services, etc.) must be cleared before a student is granted admission to a study abroad program.

For undergraduate students to be admitted to the program, an applicant's official transcript must be on file in the NIU Study Abroad Office. Students who are currently enrolled at NIU, or who have previously enrolled at NIU, do not need to request an official transcript; the Study Abroad Office will make this request on behalf of the applicant. Students who want to participate in the program and earn academic credit from NIU who have **not** previously enrolled at NIU, or who are not **currently** enrolled at NIU, should ask the Registrar at their institution to forward an official transcript as soon as possible to the Study Abroad Office. (Student-issued transcripts and photocopies are not acceptable.) Questions relating to the admission requirements or transcripts should be directed to the Study Abroad Office.

Students who desire to obtain graduate credit must either be admitted to a graduate program within the NIU Graduate School, or be admitted to the status of a "student-at-large" (SAL) within NIU's Graduate School. For students to be admitted to the program for graduate credit, the applicant's official transcript must be on file in the NIU SAO. Students who are currently enrolled at NIU, or who have previously enrolled at NIU, do not need to request an official transcript. However, students who will participate in the program in order to earn academic credit as an SAL (students who have not currently enrolled, nor are previously enrolled at NIU) must provide a transcript from the baccalaureate institution and from any institution at which graduate credit has been earned. This document must be provided to the SAO before a student can be admitted as an SAL to the program. (Student issued transcripts and photocopies are not acceptable.)

APPLICATION FORMS AND DEPOSIT: Applicants must submit the following at the time of application:

- 1) Application for NIU Administered/Faculty Directed Study Abroad Programs
- 2) Student Application Agreement
- 3) Release of Disciplinary Records and Information Form
- 4) Course Preference Form
- 5) \$200 application fee/deposit
- 6) A clear and readable copy of the first page of passport (if student already has a passport)
- 7) TWO passport size photographs (vending machine type photos are not acceptable)

APPLICATION FEE/DEPOSIT: Each application must be accompanied by a \$200 check or money order made payable to NIU. NIU students also have the option of authorizing the Business Manager of International Programs to charge the \$200 application fee/deposit to their account at the NIU Bursar's Office. The \$200 is broken down into \$100 for the non-refundable application fee and \$100 for a program deposit. The \$100 deposit is refundable only if the participant withdraws prior to the withdrawal deadline indicated on the program materials or for medical reasons if the withdrawal is after the withdrawal deadline. Both the application fee and the deposit will be applied to the total balance of the program cost. Applications that are not accompanied by the \$200 application fee/deposit will be returned to the sender. (This \$200 is also required of individuals who will be applying for financial aid.)



APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 2, 2012.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS: All accommodation and meal costs are included in the program. Participants will reside in local homes or in hotels in single or twin bedded rooms with shared or private bathrooms and will be provided all meals daily throughout the period of residency, including the home stay.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Individuals will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements between the U.S. and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and for purchasing their tickets from a travel agent or airline of their choice. (Travel insurance is recommended.) Participants should keep in mind that in order to arrive in Kuala Lumpur in time to be at the official beginning of the program at 6:00 PM on Sunday, July 22, 2012, they should plan to depart the U.S. no later than July 20, 2012. At the end of the program, flights scheduled out of Kuala Lumpur should depart no sooner than August 10.

From Kuala Lumpur International Airport, students should take the KLIA Express to KL Sentral (Kuala Lumpur Central Station) and a taxi from KL Sentral to our hotel (Classic Inn, 52 Lorong 1/77A, Changkat Thambi Dollah,). Students will be reimbursed for the KLIA Express and the taxi from KL Sentral. (Please be advised that the KLIA Express operates only from 5:00 a.m. to midnight. Students arriving between midnight and 5:00 a.m. must take a taxi from the airport to the hotel and will only be reimbursed for the rate of the KLIA Express and a local KL taxi). Accommodation arrangements can be made for students arriving earlier and staying later but at the cost of the student.

For information regarding airfares and airlines students may wish to check-out additional airfare sites on the Internet.

Important - The Study Abroad Office advises all participants that flight reservations for this program should not be booked until:

- a. After the April 2, 2012 application deadline
AND
- b. The SAO has accepted the minimum number of participants needed to operate this program.
- c. This advisory is given so that participants do not find themselves financially responsible for airline tickets should it be necessary to cancel the program. (See section entitled, [CANCELLATION OF THE PROGRAM](#))

LAND TRANSPORTATION: For program-related travel the group will travel by bus, train and taxi. For the most part, program participants will depend on the very reliable and nationwide public transportation system.

PASSPORT: --IMPORTANT--All participants are required to **possess** a valid passport by April 2, 2012. *Important Note: U.S. passports must be valid SIX months beyond the intended stay overseas.* Individuals who do not currently possess a valid passport should apply for one immediately upon acceptance into the program. (Applicants applying after [TBA] may need to request expedited services or apply in person at the Chicago Passport Agency. If applicants are not within the Chicago area, they must apply at the nearest passport agency.) Information on acquiring a U.S. passport is available at the U.S. State Department's website: http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html. Foreign passport holders may need special visas for travel **and are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas.**



VISA: A visa is not required for US citizens staying in Malaysia less than three months.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT I.D. CARD (ISIC): The ISIC is provided as part of the program cost. The International Student I.D. card can, among other things, provide discounts on international airfare. Students will receive an application and instructions for obtaining this card when accepted into the program.



More importantly, the International Student Identity Card also includes a limited health and accident insurance policy which is only valid outside the U.S. Students will have to pay bills at the time of treatment and will be reimbursed later.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS/VACCINATIONS: The CDC strongly recommends and students will be required to obtain Hepatitis A and Typhoid immunizations. The CDC also recommends all travelers be up-to-date on the routine immunizations: tetanus-diphtheria, measles-mumps-rubella, polio, and varicella. The NIU University Health Service can administer most immunizations.

NIU MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE: NIU Student health insurance is required for participation in an NIU study abroad program. Participants not currently enrolled in the NIU insurance plan will be enrolled in the NIU major medical Insurance Plan (comprehensive) that has a \$250 deductible clause. Students requiring medical attention will be expected to pay any related costs and then file a claim with the NIU Student Insurance Office after returning to the States. Receipts showing payment for all medical expenses are required for reimbursement.

NIU PROGRAM COST: The program cost pays for the following cost related services:

- Accommodations and three meals daily while the group is in Malaysia.
- Program-related land transportation in Malaysia.
- Admission fees to cultural and historical sites visited as part of the daily schedule.
- International Student I.D.
- NIU tuition for undergraduate or graduate credit.
- NIU major medical insurance for the duration of the program (required).

PROGRAM COST: \$4,280

All prices quoted are subject to change. The information contained in the program documents and forms is presented in good faith and is believed to be correct as of the date presented. Northern Illinois University reserves the right to amend, modify, revise, or delete any information appearing in these documents, including but not limited to the cost of the program.

Non-NIU students should consult with their home institutions regarding additional costs that may apply to study abroad. Non-NIU students are responsible for any study abroad charges imposed by their home institution.

ADDITIONAL COSTS TO PARTICIPANTS:

- Airfare
- Required books
- Cost of acquiring a passport (approximately \$135, including 2 passport pictures).
- TWO passport size photos (must accompany program application).
- Additional costs associated with obtaining a visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Immunization fees (*if immunizations are required*)
- \$40 Undergraduate application fee for non-NIU undergraduate students.
- Independent travel and visa costs associated with independent travel.
- Expenses for free-time pursuits.
- Expenses and purchases of a personal nature.

FINANCIAL AID: As a participant in a study abroad program through NIU, applicants may be eligible for: Pell Grant, SEOG, Perkins Loan, PLUS Loan, Subsidized or Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, MAP Award or your privately awarded scholarship with consent of awarding organization.

Information is also available in the Study Abroad Office regarding scholarships available to undergraduate students offered by the Institute for International Education. Tuition waivers do not apply.

Please contact the International Programs Business Manager, Pamela Rosenberg, Williston Hall 408, (815) 753-9530, prosenberg@niu.edu for more information.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM: Applicants withdrawing from the program after April 2, 2012 will not be refunded the \$100 program deposit. Applicants withdrawing from the program after this date will also be held accountable for any funds obligated or paid to overseas vendors and agents on the applicant's behalf. This provision is in effect even if the applicant has not submitted the \$100 deposit or additional payments, and if the applicant is applying for financial aid.

If the applicant must withdraw after April 2, 2012 for medical reasons, funds obligated on their behalf to overseas vendors can only be refunded if:

- 1) The request is submitted to the Study Abroad Office in writing and accompanied by a signed statement stating that travel is not advised from a physician on the physician's letterhead; **and**
- 2) NIU is able to obtain refunds from overseas vendors and agents.

CANCELLATION OF THE PROGRAM: The Study Abroad Office reserves the right to cancel this program if the minimum required enrollment is not attained. If, prior to the commencement of the program, a U.S. State Department Travel Warning is issued for Malaysia, all applicants will be notified promptly of the warning and the possibility of cancellation of the program. If, during the course of the program, a U.S. State Department Travel Warning is issued for Malaysia, students will be promptly notified of the warning and the advisability of canceling the program.

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER
OR CANCEL THIS PROGRAM AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY!**

Course Syllabus

Prof. Eric Jones
History and Culture of Malaysia
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HIST 449
Summer 2012
Overseas Program:
July 22 – August 10, 2012

HISTORY AND CULTURE OF MALAYSIA

Course Description:

Malaysia represents all of the great populations and therefore histories of Asia. Because of its unique history, Malaysia, unlike any other country, is comprised of significant Malay, Chinese and Indian populations. Here, the student of history can interact with large Islamic, Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, animist and syncretic groups. In Malaysia, histories of Asian culture (Arab, Indian, Chinese and Malay) exist in one place. Finally, Malaysia is home to the world's once-greatest entrepot and the city that lured Columbus to cross the sea, Melaka, where history is alive and on display. Using themes such as geography, religion, society, politics, and trade, we will chart our way from 'monumental' antiquity, to the age of commerce, to colonial encounters, and to independence and beyond.

Faculty Spotlight:

Prof. Jones recently finished a book about the underclass in Southeast Asia, called, *Wives, Slaves and Concubines*. In it, he paints stories about the kind of people who usually don't show up in history books, despite being in the overwhelming majority. His sources are mainly explosive court proceedings from the eighteenth century, and read like true crime tales full of violence, drama, sex and confessions. With these he is also trying to tell a bigger story about the social changes to the lower order accompanying a dramatic shift in the economic structures surrounding them. He recently spent a year as a Fulbright professor in Malaysia and became very interested in the role of Islam in Southeast Asia. Future research projects will examine the history of the Islamic dietary code, halal, in the Malay world and possibly the Malaysian Hajj Fund, Tabung Haji.

Formal Requirements and Procedures:

The course format will consist of formal lectures, discussion to address readings and course material. Grades will be based on quizzes, attendance, participation, map tests, journal submissions and a research paper.

Required readings:

Simon Richmond (ed.), *Lonely Planet Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei* (Lonely Planet, 11th Edition, 2010). Paperback ISBN: 978-1741048872 (**NOTE: VERY IMPORTANT TO GET THE LATEST, 11TH EDITION**)

Barbara Watson Andaya and Leonard Y. Andaya, *A History of Malaysia* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2001). Paperback ISBN: 978-0333945049

Eric Jones, *Wives, Slaves, and Concubines: A History of the Female Underclass in Dutch Asia* (Northern Illinois University Press: 2010) ISBN-13: 978-0875804101

Henri Fauconnier, *The Soul of Malaya* (Butterworth-Heinemann, 2003). Paperback ISBN-13: 978-9814068482

Electronic Readings and Articles TBA