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 Department of Anthropology. Cooperating overseas institutions include Prince of Songkla University, Thammasat University, Chulalongkorn University and Payap University.

PROGRAM DATES: Students will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements in order to arrive in Bangkok, Thailand on Friday, June 15, 2012 and not any later. The academic component of the program will officially begin on Monday June 18, 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand, and will end on Saturday, July 14, 2012.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Andrea Katalin Molnar, Professor of Anthropology in the NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Professor Molnar is a cultural anthropologist with special topical interests in religion, symbolism, Islam, social organization, political anthropology, language, and ecological anthropology, and culture change. Her area specialization is Southeast Asia, Indonesia, East Timor and Southern Thailand. She has conducted field research with the Hoga Sara, Hoga Taka, and Soa cultural groups of west central Flores and the Manggarai people of west Flores in eastern Indonesia; with the Atsabe Kemak group in East Timor (Timor Leste); with Muslim women among the Malay ethnic minority of Thailand. Professor Molnar's past research in Flores (Indonesia) focused on culture change, specifically, the effects of recent rapid agricultural and economic modernization on the indigenous belief system, land tenure, ecology and gender relations of the people. She is currently examining the socio-political effects of regional autonomy. Research in East Timor focused on Kemak social organization and cosmology. Professor Molnar’s current research interest and long term project concerns the Kemak people's conceptions of power vis-à-vis dynamic interactions between the traditional socio-political system and the new state system. In Southern Thailand’s Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, and Satun regions she is conducting research on Muslim women’s political engagement in civil society. She is the author of numerous articles and two books. Professor Molnar is also the co-editor of the journal Asian Affairs: An American Review.

Professor Molnar teaches courses in general cultural anthropology, social organization, political anthropology, anthropology of religion, ritual and myth, and religion and cosmology of Southeast Asia, Muslim cultures in anthropological perspective.
Biographic information on prospective GUEST lecturers from Thai host universities is not available at the time of the application. But the following units of each participant university will be engaged in the course:

- Chulalongkorn University: Faculty of Political Science and also the Rotary foundation’s Peace and Conflict Studies
- Thammasat University: Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Political Science
- Prince of Songkla University: Peace Studies Institute, Political Science, and Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity
- Payap University: Southeast Asian Studies and Peace Studies.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW/OBJECTIVES:** The program focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and on the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The program provides students with an introduction to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand while emphasizing the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups and the practical implication of these relations in everyday life in Thailand. One component of the program examines the relationship between Thai Buddhists and Thai Muslims in the north and also in the south of Thailand. Another component emphasizes the diversity of cultures, including the diverse highland populations occupying the northern part of Thailand. The goal of the program is to provide students with an understanding of diversity and power relations between center and minorities and the practical effects of these relations on issues of development, regional administration, social organization, gender relations, and education, and religious freedom, among others. Students will gain first-hand learning experience through lectures from the NIU professor and guest-lectures from Thai faculty along with observation and interaction with Thai students and community members. These latter aspects will be re-enforced whenever possible through partnering up NIU students with Thai students from participating partner institutions as well as through visits to cultural and historic sites, and to minority communities with the assistance of Thai partner universities. The program utilizes a political anthropology perspective while focusing on cultural issues and their historical background.

The program provides students with knowledge about diversity issues in Thailand, with the opportunity to learn from cultural informants (both Thai lecturers and partner students) while exposing students to in-country experience. Furthermore, when possible for partnering NIU participants with Thai students, NIU students will hone their skills in inter-cultural interaction and an appreciation for diversity issues. Participation in the program could potentially enable students to continue their focus on Thai studies either at the undergraduate or graduate levels at NIU upon their return, whether in the fields of anthropology, political science, or history.

**PROGRAM SITE(S):** The program will visit Central Thailand in the capital of Bangkok: Thammasat and Chulalongkorn University; Southern Thailand in Hat Yai and Phuket: two campuses of Prince of Songkla University; Northern Thailand in Chiang Mai: Payap University.
Thailand is a constitutional monarchy and Thai people hold their king in much reverence. Thailand has a rich history and culture. The population consists of the majority Thai-Buddhists as well as a plethora of minority groups, including a multitude of highland tribes and Muslim and Christian minorities. Theravada Buddhism still shows influences of Hinduism and the practiced (that is, not doctrinal) lived-religion is also heavily seeped in traditional religious beliefs of the phií spirit cults. For tourists, the beautiful beaches and Thai Buddhist temples are just a few of the drawing attractions.

Bangkok is the capital city and as such is the site for many historical sites and temples—among others the Royal Palace, Wat Arun, and the National Museum. “Bangkok was founded in 1782 by the first monarch of the present Chakri dynasty. It is now the country’s spiritual, cultural, diplomatic, commercial and educational hub. It covers an area of more than 1,500 square kilometres, and it is home to approximately ten million people or more than 10% of the country’s population” (http://www.tourismthailand.org/destination-guide/bangkok-10-17-1.html).
Chulalongkorn and Thammasat Universities are the two oldest universities of Thailand and ranked as the top two universities of the country. “Chulalongkorn University, Thailand's first institution of higher learning, officially came into being in March, 1917” ([http://chula.ac.th/chula/en/visitor/brief_en.html](http://chula.ac.th/chula/en/visitor/brief_en.html)). A brief history can found on the just cited official website. The Rotary Foundation partnered up with Chulalongkorn University to run its international Peace and Conflict Studies program—headed by NIU anthropology alumni, Jennifer Weidman. The Royal Palace and National Museum are a short walking distance to Thammasat campus which is located on the side of the river Chao Praya. With a short river boat ride Wat Arun is also a short distance away from Thammasat Campus. A major tourist and shopping area, Siam Square, is a short walking distance from the campus of Chulalongkorn University.

Southern Thailand: Prince of Songkla University is the major and oldest institution in southern Thailand with several campuses distributed in the southern region, including Pattani, Surat Thani, Trang, Hat Yai and Phuket. The host campuses for the proposed program will be the Hat Yai and Phuket campuses. Hat Yai is the largest metropolitan area in Southern Thailand and is the biggest city of Songkla province. Phuket is a major tourist destination due to its internationally renowned beaches. While at the Phuket campus, students will also have the opportunity to enjoy the beaches on their free time. In terms of diversity, there is a sizable Muslim population living in the South, the majority of who belong to the Malay ethnic group—the geographic proximity of Hat Yai to Malaysia is important in this regard.

Prince of Songkla University (PSU) “aims to establish excellence in researches, to provide academic services to communities as well as to take active role in preservation of national heritage in arts and culture, especially for those belonged to southern Thailand. For over forty years of existence, since its inception in 1967, with the stated vision of becoming a leading research-intensive university in Asia with the primary role of producing very capable graduates, providing excellent academic services and actively involving in preservation of national heritage in arts and culture, Prince of Songkla University, has accomplished much of its objectives.”

Northern Thailand: Chiang Mai is the location of Payap University. The northern region is very rich in diverse highland populations as well as migrant populations from Burma (Myanmar). There are many different ethnic groups that compose the Muslim population (unlike in southern Thailand). It is not just ethnic group diversity but religious diversity that also characterizes the
region where Buddhists, Animists, Christians, and Muslims co-exist. Chiang Mai is an old historical city. The city boasts of a rich traditional heritage and unique cultures. The city’s cultural identity is inseparable from the diverse dialects, cuisine, architecture, traditional values, festivals, handicrafts and classical dances. “In addition, the presence of hill tribes and their wealth of unique cultures enhance Chiang Mai’s distinctive diversity” (http://www.tourismthailand.org/destination-guide/chiangmai-50-1-1.html).

Payap University has a long and rich history beginning in 1888 with the founding of the Thailand Theological Seminary. That seminary has now been integrated into Payap University as the McGilvary College of Divinity, one of eleven academic divisions comprising the university. Initially, seminary students were accepted after completing elementary school. High school graduation gradually became the pre-requisite for a seven-year bachelor of divinity (BD) course that was formally initiated in 1960. The second predecessor of Payap University was the McCormick Hospital School of Nursing, established in 1923. After first accepting students with minimal educational qualifications, in 1961 the School of Nursing made high school graduation a pre-requisite for entrance. Degrees awarded by these institutions, however, were not recognized as college degrees by the Royal Thai Government. The Royal Proclamation of the Private Colleges Act of 1969 made private higher education a legal reality in Thailand. Payap's achievements were recognized by the Royal Thai Government in 1984 when it became the first fully accredited private university in Thailand. Since then the university has continued to progress, expanding facilities to accommodate the steady growth in the student body, investing in the continuing education and training of the faculty through university support of graduate education in the US and in other countries, and adding a wide range of international programs to attract students from across Southeast Asia and from other areas of the world.

HIGHLIGHTS: The following is not a complete list of program-related cultural attractions to be visited but provides a sample of the highlights.

1. Visits to Bangkok attraction: Royal Palace, National Museum, Siam Square, Arun Temple, Ayutthya ancient capital’s ruins and temples, Foreign correspondents’ Club
2. Visit to Hat Yai mosque, Buddhist temples and Chinese temples
3. Phuket: Students can enjoy beaches during their free time
4. Visit to attractions in Chiang Mai and vicinities: Temples, traditional highland village, night markets featuring traditional handi-crafts
5. Lectures of leading scholars on diversity and peace and conflict issues in Thailand at all the Thai partner institutions; including taking part in the sessions of the Rotary Peace and Conflict studies program at the invitation of Jennifer Weidman (in country deputy director of program)

PROGRAM AUDIENCE: Space is limited and qualified applicants will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. The program is open to ALL students interested in Thailand, including non-traditional students, students-at-large, and professionals. However, the program would be of special interest to students from art history, political science, history, anthropology, journalism and to those focusing on Southeast Asian Studies and would contribute the most to the overall academic training of students from these disciplines. There is a preference for students who can
show personal maturity and can take personal responsibility for their conduct, given that participating students are de-facto “ambassadors” for their country and university. Therefore an appreciation for diversity and cultural tolerance are expected from participating students; especially since NIU participants will be partnered with students from Thai partner institutions. There also will be different course requirements for undergraduates versus graduate students.

INSTRUCTION METHOD: The sessions may include lectures by program faculty leader (Andrea K. Molnar), lectures and seminars by Thai faculty at partner institutions’ participating units, seminar discussions jointly with Thai student partners, topic related visits of cultural attractions, and question and answer sessions after all seminars and panel discussions. A one hour debriefing session will be held daily by program faculty leader. Sessions are normally held on campus of Thai partner institutions. Participating students will be required to keep a daily journal of what has been learned from instructional and field experiences and this journal is part of the grading process. In addition, graduate students will have to provide a formal paper on diversity issues in Thailand as it directly relates to their own thesis and graduate program interests.

Course requirement for undergraduate students: active participation in daily debriefing session [30% of final grade], daily journal entries on material learned [40% of final grade], weekly summary assessment (1 single spaced page) about key concepts and issues learned [10% of final grade]; a brief (5 page, single spaced) essay on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups [20% of final grade].

Course requirement for graduate students: active participation in daily debriefing session [20% of final grade], daily journal entries on material learned [35% of final grade], weekly summary assessment (1 single spaced page) about key concepts and issues learned [10% of final grade]; a 15 page, critical and analytical paper on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups and supplemented by published academic sources [30% of final grade]; weekly one hour individual discussion meetings with program faculty leader concerning planned paper topic [5% of final grade]—this is a formal advising session for graduate students.

PROGRAM ACADEMIC CREDIT: For satisfactory participation in the program, participants will receive 6 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate credit in one of the following NIU courses.
## UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT:

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<th>ANTH 493A  Anthropology Field School</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thailand: Cultural Diversity and Minority Relations</strong></td>
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**Description:** The course focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and on the relationship between the dominant majority and minority groups of the country. The course provides students with an introduction to the culture and the diversity of cultural groups in Thailand while emphasizing the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups and the practical implication of these relations in everyday life in Thailand. One component of the course examines the relationship between Thai Buddhists and Thai Muslims in the north and also in the south of Thailand. Another component emphasizes the diversity of cultures, including the diverse highland populations occupying the northern part of Thailand. The goal of the course is to provide students with an understanding of diversity and power relations between center and minorities and the practical effects of these relations on issues of development, regional administration, social organization, gender relations, and education, and religious freedom, among others. The course utilizes a political anthropology perspective while focusing on cultural issues and their historical background. The course is based on lectures, seminars, and topically based field visits. For both lectures and field visits NIU participants will be partnered with Thai students. The proposed course provides students with knowledge about diversity issues in Thailand, with the opportunity to learn from cultural informants (both Thai lecturers and partner students) while exposing students to in-country experience. Furthermore, partnering NIU participants with Thai students will hone participants’ skills in inter-cultural interaction and an appreciation for diversity issues. Participation in the course could potentially enable students to continue their focus on Thai studies either at the undergraduate or graduate levels at NIU upon their return, whether in the fields of anthropology, political science, or history.

**Prerequisite:** Consent of department and professor.

## GRADUATE CREDIT:

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<th>ANTH 593A  Anthropology Field School</th>
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**Prerequisite:** Consent of department and professor.
HONORS CREDIT: Qualified students may also elect to receive Honors credit for any course(s). 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 Thailand: cultural diversity and minority relations. Currently enrolled students must meet College of Liberal Arts and Sciences 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.

**Undergraduate Students:** 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.

**Graduate-Level Students:** 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. Two passport size photos for visa
7. A clear and readable copy of the first page of passport

$200 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: March 1, 2012.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS: Participants will reside in hotels and student dormitories of the Thai partner institutions in double occupancy twin rooms with in-room bath and toilet facilities and/or shared bathroom. Meals will not be provided and will be the responsibility of each student.

Basic meal costs are relatively low in Thailand for three meals per day in total ranging between $10-$35. The range depends on a person’s preferences and whether Asian or western meals are preferred. The range also reflects the consumption of non-alcoholic beverages only. For one month it is estimated that meal expenses would total about $1050 for 30 days at the upper scale of the range and the lower scale $300 for 30 days; on average $500 for 30 days.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Individuals will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements between the U.S. and Bangkok, Thailand 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 Bangkok, Thailand in time for the official beginning of the program, they should plan to depart the U.S. no later than June 13, 2012 that would allow for arrival on June 15, 2012. Please note that there is a 12-hour time difference between DeKalb and Bangkok and therefore, a June 13 departure in Thai time is already June 14.

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

a. After the March 1, 2012 application deadline
   AND
b. The SAO has accepted the minimum number of participants needed to operate this program.
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 local flights, taxis, sky rain, river boat, tuk-tuk, bus, mini-vans. This transportation is provided as part of the NIU program cost. (Refer to the Tentative Daily Schedule for specific details regarding other program-related transportation.)

PASSPORT: --IMPORTANT--All participants are required to possess a valid passport by March 1, 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. Passport applications can take anywhere from two to six weeks to process therefore you must not delay in applying for your passport. Information on applying for a passport as well as expediting a passport application can be found at http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html. Foreign passport holders may need special visas for travel and are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas.

VISA: For U.S. citizens a tourist visa for 30 days is provided upon arrival.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT I.D. CARD: The ISIC card is provided as part of the program cost. The I.D. card can provide discount on international airfare and other travel. Students will receive an application and instructions for obtaining this card when accepted into the program.

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.

PASSPORT AND ISIC PHOTOS: Students may have their passport and/or ISIC photo(s) taken in the NIU Study Abroad Office. Photos are $3.00 for the first photo and $2.00 for each photo after that. After the first two photos, photos must be purchased in multiples of two. Photos are usually developed while you wait. Study Abroad Office hours are 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (closed over the lunch hour) and 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS/VACCINATIONS: It is important to check with the NIU University Health Service Travel Clinic regarding vaccinations and medications for vaccine-preventable diseases and other diseases you might be at risk for in Thailand. All vaccinations should be administered BEFORE the end of the spring semester. Unless you are enrolled in on-campus NIU summer courses in addition to this study abroad program, you will not have access to the NIU Health Service. Study abroad fees do not include the NIU Health Service fee.

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 Major Medical Insurance Plan will be enrolled by the Study Abroad Office. The NIU Major Medical Insurance Plan 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 cost covers the following:

1) Hotel and/or Dorm accommodations  
2) Program-related land transportation in Thailand  
3) Admission fees to cultural and historical sites visited as part of the daily schedule  
4) International Student I.D.  
5) NIU tuition for undergraduate or graduate credit  
6) NIU major medical insurance

**PROGRAM COST: $5,080**

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:** Please note that the figures listed below are approximations.

- Airfare
- Cost of acquiring a passport (approximately $135, including 2 passport pictures).
- 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.
- Meals (See page 9 for estimated cost range)
- Laundry services: $80
- Shopping money (personal nature purchases)—variable per individual: $250

**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. Tuition waivers do not apply. Please contact Pamela Rosenberg, International Programs Business Manager, Williston Hall 407, (815) 753-9530, prosenberg@niu.edu for more information.
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM: Applicants withdrawing from the program after March 1, 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 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 March 1, 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 Thailand, 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 Thailand, 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!

Photos taken by Andrea K. Molnar.
Course Syllabus

ANTH 493/593 Field School:
Thailand: cultural diversity and minority relations

Program Director A. K. MOLNAR
Department Anthropology

Course Description: The proposed course focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and on the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course provides students with an introduction to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand while emphasizing the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups and the practical implication of these relations in everyday life in Thailand. One component of the course examines the relationship between Thai Buddhists and Thai Muslims in the north and also in the south of Thailand. Another component emphasizes the diversity of cultures, including the diverse highland populations occupying the northern part of Thailand. The goal of the course is to provide students with an understanding of diversity and power relations between center and minorities and the practical effects of these relations on issues of development, regional administration, social organization, gender relations, and education, and religious freedom, among others. Students would have a first-hand learning experience through lectures from the NIU professor and guest-lectures from Thai faculty along with observation and interaction with Thai students and community members. These latter aspects will be re-enforced through partnering up NIU students with Thai students from participating partner institutions as well as through visits to cultural and historic sites, and to minority communities with the assistance of Thai partner universities. The course utilizes a political anthropology perspective while focusing on cultural issues and their historical background.

The proposed course organization: lectures and field visits. For both lectures and field visits NIU participants will be partnered with Thai students.

The proposed course provides students with knowledge about diversity issues in Thailand, with the opportunity to learn from cultural informants (both Thai lecturers and partner students) while exposing students to in-country experience. Furthermore, partnering NIU participants with Thai students will hone participants’ skills in inter-cultural interaction and an appreciation for diversity issues. Participation in the course could potentially enable students to continue their focus on Thai studies either at the undergraduate or graduate levels at NIU upon their return, whether in the fields of anthropology, political science, or history.
Prospective Course Schedule:
Week 1: at Thammasat University (Bangkok) Introduction to Thai culture and cultural diversity; visit to historical and cultural sites in Bangkok (including to Muslim community in Bangkok)
Week 2: at Payap University (Chiang Mai) Cultural diversity of northern Thailand; visit to traditional hill tribe village(s); guest lectures on migrant communities from Burma, Muslim-Buddhist relations; preservation of traditional cultures and languages and the ways such efforts link to tourism and local development issues; visits of historic temples
Week 3: at Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok) Center – minority relations; Rotary Peace and Conflict seminars; Southeast Asia and Thai Studies program guest lectures on minority relations and implications for development, administration, gender issues, education, etc.
Week 4: at Prince of Songkla University (Hat Yai and Phuket) Explorations of Muslim – Buddhist relations in the south, including the tourist areas of Phuket; diversity in light of national policies and implications for development, administration, gender issues, education, etc.

Required Book(s): (List any required or recommended books.)

LIST OF STRONGLY RECOMMENDED READINGS
Undergraduate STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO READ at least 5 of the recommended articles and if possible AS MANY OF THE LISTED SOURCES AS POSSIBLE BEFORE ARRIVING TO THAILAND
Graduate Students ARE URGED TO READ at least 10 of the listed articles and AS MANY OF THE LISTED SOURCES AS POSSIBLE BEFORE ARRIVING IN THAILAND

In Civilizing the margins: Southeast Asian government policies for the development of minorities / Author(s): Duncan, Christopher R. Publication: Ithaca: Cornell University Press, Year: 2004
1. Christopher R. Duncan -- Developing the "hill tribes" of northern Thailand

In Ethnic groups across national boundaries in mainland Southeast Asia / Author(s): Wijeyewardene, Gehan. Publication: Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Year: 1990
2. Christian Bauer -- Thailand and the Tai: versions of ethnic identity

In Development or domestication?: indigenous peoples of Southeast Asia / Author(s): McCaskill, Don N. Kampe, Ken. Publication: Chiang Mai, Thailand: Silkworm Books, Year: 1997
5. Sommart Sukonthaphatipak -- The impact of development on the hill tribes of Thailand
6. John McKinnon -- The culture of development in developing indigenous peoples
7. Chumpol Maniratanavongsiri -- Jungle tours: a government policy in need of review
In Southeast Asian tribal groups and ethnic minorities: prospects for the eighties and beyond. **Corp Author(s):** Cultural Survival Inc.; Harvard University; Dept. of Anthropology. **Publication:** Cambridge, MA : Cultural Survival, **Year:** 1987


9. The future of the past in northern Thailand / Michael R. Rhum

In Challenging the limits: indigenous peoples of the Mekong region / Author(s): Prasit Lipricha, McCaskill, Don N, Khwanchiwan Buadæng. **Publication:** Chiang Mai, Thailand : Mekong Press, **Year:** 2008

10. Ethnicty and the nation-states of Thailand and Vietnam / Charles Keyes

In Multiculturalism, separatism, and nation state building in Thailand. **Corp Author(s):** Pusat Penelitian Sumberdaya Regional (Indonesia) **Publication:** Jakarta : Research Center for Regional Resources, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, **Year:** 2004

11. A description of Thailand's geography and demography / Erlita Tantri

12. The state policies towards southern border provinces / Cahyo Pamungkas

13. Forced cultural assimilation and its implication for the continuation of Pattani Muslims' identity / Erni Budiwanti

14. From peripheral communities to ethnic nations: separatism in Southeast Asia /
**Author:** Brown, David, 1945- **Publication:** 1988 In: *Pacific affairs* 61(1) Spring 1988 : 51-77

**Recommended Monographs:**

*Voices of Islam in Southeast Asia: a contemporary sourcebook* / **Author:** Fealy, Greg.; Hooker, Virginia Matheson, **Publication:** Singapore : Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2006—sections on Thailand

*Tearing apart the land: Islam and legitimacy in Southern Thailand* / **Author:** McCargo, Duncan. **Publication:** Ithaca : Cornell University Press, 2008

*Between integration and secession: the Muslim communities of the southern Philippines, Southern Thailand, and western Burma/Myanmar* / **Author:** Yegar, Moshe. **Publication:** Lanham, Md. : Lexington Books, 2002—sections on Thailand

*The Muslims of Thailand* / **Author:** Gilquin, Michel.; Smithies, Michael, **Publication:** Bangkok : IRASEC ; Chiang Mai : Silkworm Books, 2005

*The life of this world: negotiated Muslim lives in Thai society* / **Author:** Chaiwat Satha-Anand. **Publication:** Singapore : Marshall Cavendish Academic, 2005

*Multiculturalism, separatism, and nation state building in Thailand.* **Publication:** Jakarta : Research Center for Regional Resources, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, 2004
Islamic identity in Chiangmai City a historical and structural comparison of two communities


Political theory on location formations of Muslim political community in Southern Thailand


Author: Bonura, Carlo J. Publication: 2003Dissertation: Thesis (Ph. D.)--University of Washington,

Report: (Provide requirements for reports, papers, projects, etc.)and other course requirements:

Course requirement for undergraduate students: active participation in daily debriefing session [30% of final grade], daily journal entries on material learned [40% of final grade], weekly summary assessment (1 single spaced page) about key concepts and issues learned [10% of final grade]; a brief (5 page, single spaced) essay on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups [20% of final grade]. Course requirement for graduate students: active participation in daily debriefing session [20% of final grade], daily journal entries on material learned [35% of final grade], weekly summary assessment (1 single spaced page) about key concepts and issues learned [10% of final grade]; a 15 page, critical and analytical paper on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups and supplemented by published academic sources [30% of final grade]; weekly one hour individual discussion meetings with program faculty leader concerning planned paper topic [5% of final grade]—this is a formal advising session for graduate students.

The deadline for submission of report/project, etc. is (date): due dates take into account jet lag and re-acclimatization to the 12 hour time difference upon return to the US.

Undergraduates a brief (5 page, single spaced) essay on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups DUE: July 31, 2012

Graduate students a 15 page, critical and analytical paper on a topic that was focal in a seminar presentation and that the student discussed with their Thai student partner and demonstrably integrated with the overall course material on larger issues of diversity and dynamic relations between dominant and minority groups and supplemented by published academic sources DUE: July 31, 2012.
TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE

Orientation Meeting:
Thailand, Bangkok, at student accommodations, June 17 Sunday 12.00-15.00
Overseas Program: June 18-July 14, 2012

Week 1: at Thammasat University (Bangkok) Introduction to Thai culture and cultural diversity; visit to historical and cultural sites in Bangkok (including to Muslim community in Bangkok)
Week 2: at Payap University (Chiang Mai) Cultural diversity of northern Thailand; visit to traditional hill tribe village(s); guest lectures on migrant communities from Burma, Muslim-Buddhist relations; preservation of traditional cultures and languages and the ways such efforts link to tourism and local development issues; visits of historic temples
Week 3: at Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok) Center – minority relations; Rotary Peace and Conflict seminars; Southeast Asia and Thai Studies program guest lectures on minority relations and implications for development, administration, gender issues, education, etc.
Week 4: at Prince of Songkla University (Hat Yai and Phuket) Explorations of Muslim – Buddhist relations in the south, including the tourist areas of Phuket; diversity in light of national policies and implications for development, administration, gender issues, education, etc.

TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE:
9.00-12.00 lectures
12.00-13.00 lunch
13.00-14.30 daily debriefing
15.00-18.00 on cultural and site seeing activities
Evenings: students’ own time
Weekends: students’ own time

Arrival in Bangkok: June 15, 2012 Friday midnight
Orientation: June 17, 2012 Sunday 12.00-15.00
Start of Lectures: June 18, 2012 Monday 9.00 am
Departure from Bangkok: July 14, 2012

In Bangkok students will be housed in Hotel accommodations. To allow time for traveling from accommodations to campus of Thammasat / Chulalongkorn as a group, we will meet in the lobby at 7.00 am while in Bangkok – week 1. And week 3.

We shall be back in Bangkok on July 13 with students departing on July 14th. Please NOTE, for a 30 day period students can get visa on arrival. Day 1 of these 30 days is counted from the time of landing in Thailand. Thus, if students arrive on June 15 then their 30th day is on July 14th and must exit Thailand.