THAI GEOGRAPHY

2021 International Programs

Steven Andrew Martin
Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Management
Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus
Assistant Professor of Asian Studies in Sociology and Anthropology
Dept. of Thai and ASEAN Studies
Faculty of International Studies

Course description

Geographical characteristics in each region of Thailand as well as the borders of neighboring countries; Regional resources; Geographic factors which cause local change, including careers, permanent settlements and important tourist destinations; Fieldwork is part of the course.

Course objectives

Students are expected to understand and be able to express their own ideas in the following areas:

1. The location, size and borders of Thailand.
2. Physical and human resources of Thailand.
3. Characteristics of Thailand in a regional context.
4. Various map projections and thematic maps of Thailand.
5. Important domestic and international tourist attractions in Thailand.
6. Geographic terms and concepts in the Thai context, including location, space, and area.
7. Geographical factors causing local change, including occupations, settlements, and migration.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to the course: The fundamentals of geography; Overview of Thai geography</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction to the language of physical geography: Root words and their origins and meanings</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Worksheet (concepts &amp; meanings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Map interpretation: Properties of maps; map types and projections; scale; latitude; longitude; contour lines; digital mapping; GPS and GIS</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Project (PSU campus mapping exercise)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Introduction to concepts of physical geography (with emphasis on Thailand): Earth and Solar System; Climatology and Meteorology (+ SW and NE Monsoons); The Earth’s Atmosphere; Weathering and Mass Wasting (+ Karst topography); River systems and landforms</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Physical geography of Thailand I (+ National parks and resource management) - The Northern Region - The North-eastern Region</td>
<td>Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Physical geography of Thailand II (+ National parks and resource management) - The Central Region - The Eastern Region</td>
<td>Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Physical geography of Thailand III (+ National parks and resource management) - The Western Region - The Southern Region</td>
<td>Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Coastal resource management and conservation in Thailand - Coral reefs; costal processes; erosion; fisheries; pollution; marine debris; anthropogenic factors - Natural disasters in Thailand (cyclones; flooding; 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami)</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Midterm Break</td>
<td>Take-home midterm project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Fieldtrip to Nai Yang Beach - Exploring coastal change through on-site experience: coral reefs; coastal erosion; fisheries; anthropogenic factors; marine debris</td>
<td>Coastal survey Beach combing Beach cleanup Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Introduction to the language of human geography - Root words, origins &amp; meanings</td>
<td>Lecture; Group discussion; Worksheet (concepts &amp; meanings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Human geography - Demographics of Bangkok as a primate city - Current and historic Thai border issues</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; PowerPoint; Group discussion; Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Geographic factors which cause change at the local level, such as permanent settlements, migration and career

**13**  
Cultural and tourism geography of Thailand I  
- Important regional destinations of Thailand  
  - The Northern Region  
  - The North-eastern Region  
  Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture & PowerPoint; Group discussion

**14**  
Cultural and tourism geography of Thailand II  
- Important regional destinations of Thailand  
  - The Central Region  
  - The Eastern Region  
  Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture & PowerPoint; Group discussion

**15**  
Cultural and tourism geography of Thailand III  
- Important regional destinations of Thailand  
  - The Western Region  
  - The Southern Region  
  Activities: Student Presentations; Lecture & PowerPoint; Group discussion

**16**  
- Course review and concluding remarks  
  Group discussion

**17**  
- Final Exam

### Selected Articles by Course Lecturer


### Other


**Suggested readings**

**Books**


**Thailand Research Articles**


