

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Public and International Affairs
with effect from Semester A 2024/25**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	Indonesia: Politics and Society
Course Code:	PIA5338
Course Duration:	One Semester
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P5
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Precursors: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Equivalent Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	AIS5338 Indonesia: Politics and Society
Exclusive Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

Indonesia, the world’s third largest democracy and the most populous Muslim-majority society, presents an interesting contrast of great achievements and challenges that still need to be won. On one hand, Indonesia has consolidated in the last two decades as one of the most successful democracies in Asia, and sustained economic development has improved the lives of many. On the other hand, the country is still struggling to address deep-seated inequalities, and intolerance towards religious minorities appears to be on the rise. In this respect, Indonesia resembles many other middle-income countries, and this course will therefore study it from a comparative perspective. Topics will include nationalism, the role of Islam in politics, economic development, foreign relations, local autonomy and decentralization, political elites and clientelism, activism and human rights. For each, the Indonesian case will be discussed in the context of broader debates in comparative politics, development studies and international relations.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	To possess a reasonably sophisticated knowledge about Indonesian history and contemporary Indonesian society and politics.	20	✓	✓	
2.	To apply concepts and theoretical framework from social science to understand various issues of politics and society in Indonesia.	20	✓	✓	
3.	To independently analyse political, economic, and social processes in Indonesia relevant to the concerns of the course.	20	✓	✓	✓
4.	To undertake independent research on specific issues of politics and society in Indonesia and, in so doing, access and critically evaluate a range of information sources.	20	✓	✓	✓
5.	To communicate research findings effectively, both orally and in writing.	20	✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5		
Lectures	The instructor will present concept, theories and various aspects of Indonesia's politics and society	✓	✓	✓				
Class participation	Students are expected to attend all lectures/seminars, prepare for class by reading required materials and participate actively to class discussion.	✓	✓	✓				
Mid-term quiz and essay	Students will answer a series of multiple-choice questions designed to ascertain their knowledge of Indonesian history and society, and answer an essay question	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Groupwork	Students will work in groups to deliver a presentation and lead a class discussion on a topic of their choice regarding Indonesia's contemporary politics and society		✓	✓	✓	✓		

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5			
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
Class participation	✓	✓	✓				15%	
Midterm quiz	✓	✓	✓				20%	
Mid-term essay	✓	✓	✓	✓			35%	
Presentation and class discussion		✓	✓	✓	✓		30%	
Examination: 0% (duration: N/A, if applicable)								
							100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Class participation	Level of grasp of reading materials and the ability of critical thinking (50%)	Superior grasp of subject readings; evidence of critical thinking and extensive knowledge base.	Reasonable grasp of subject readings and some evidence of critical thinking and knowledge.	Evidence of knowledge about subject readings and some efforts for critical thinking.	Evidence of grasp of the subject readings but little evidence of critical thinking.	Little evidence of grasp of subject readings and no evidence of critical thinking.
	Quality of conceptual thinking and informed participation in discussion (50%)	High level of conceptual thinking and the ability to critique materials and form sophisticated arguments.	Good ability to think conceptually and the ability to form plausible arguments.	Incomplete/marginal ability to analyse materials and the limited ability to present arguments.	Little comprehension of materials and the minimal ability to present arguments.	Poor or no comprehension of materials and the incapability/unwillingness to present arguments
2. Midterm quiz and essay	Knowledge of the topics covered in class, and ability to critically reflect on them.	Excellent knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Good knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Limited knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Poor knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Little or no knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically reflect on them.
3. Class presentation and discussion	Organization and quality of material presented (33%)	Excellent organization and quality of material	Good organization and quality of material	Adequate organization and quality of material	Marginal organization and quality of material	Poor organization and quality of material
	Presence and communication (33%)	Excellent presence and communication	Good presence and communication	Adequate presence and communication	Marginal presence and communication	Poor presence and communication
	Class engagement (34%)	Excellent ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Good ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Adequate ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Marginal ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Poor ability to engage peers in debate and reflection

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Class participation	Level of understanding of reading materials and the ability of critical thinking (50%)	Superior grasp of subject readings; evidence of critical thinking and extensive knowledge base.	Reasonable grasp of subject readings and some evidence of critical thinking and knowledge.	Evidence of grasp of the subject readings but little evidence of critical thinking.	Little evidence of grasp of subject readings and no evidence of critical thinking.
	Quality of conceptual thinking and informed participation in discussion (50%)	High level of conceptual thinking and the ability to critique materials and form sophisticated arguments.	Good ability to think conceptually and the ability to form plausible arguments.	Incomplete/limited ability to analyse materials and the limited ability to present arguments.	Poor or no comprehension of materials and the incapability/unwillingness to present arguments
2. Midterm quiz and essay	Knowledge of the topics covered in class, and ability to critically reflect on them.	Excellent knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Good knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Limited knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically integrate lecture and reading material into the essay question.	Little or no knowledge of the topics covered in class and capacity to critically reflect on them.
3. Class presentation and discussion	Organization and quality of material presented (33%)	Excellent organization and quality of material	Good organization and quality of material	Adequate to marginal organization and quality of material	Poor organization and quality of material
	Presence and communication (33%)	Excellent presence and communication	Good presence and communication	Adequate to marginal presence and communication	Poor presence and communication
	Class engagement (34%)	Excellent ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Good ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Adequate to marginal ability to engage peers in debate and reflection	Poor ability to engage peers in debate and reflection

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Indonesia, history, nationalism, political Islam, authoritarianism, democratization, democratic consolidation, clientelism, political elites, decentralization, development, corruption, inequality, human rights, gender, activism, environment, international political economy, globalization.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

A full list of mandatory readings for each week will be made available on the first day of class. Most readings will be drawn from the following books:

- *A History of Modern Indonesia* (Second Edition), by Adrian Vickers. Cambridge.
- *A Nation in Waiting: Indonesia's Search for Stability* (Second Edition), by Adam Schwarz. Westview.
- *The Indonesia Reader: History, Culture and Politics*, edited by T. Hellwig and E. Tagliacozzo. Duke.
- *Indonesia Etc.: Exploring the Improbable Nation*, by Elizabeth Pisani. Norton.

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

NIL