



ELECTIVE COURSE

Puay Ungphakorn School of Development Studies

GV.200 Introduction to Thai Rural Society and Rural Societies in ASEAN

In the past, most of ASEAN's population lived in rural areas. However, since the modernization era, cities in ASEAN have grown rapidly. As of 2007, 44.3% of the ASEAN population lives in urban areas. Some member states such as Brunei, Malaysia, and Singapore have significantly more people living in cities. Only Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Cambodia have more people living in rural areas.

The course aims to examine the dynamics of Thailand and ASEAN rural change and rural-urban interactions. It focuses on three main themes; rural society, environment and economic change and regional economic integration and its impact. Participants should come away with an understanding of rural and social change in Southeast Asia and the basic ways in which rural transformation has been approached theoretically and empirically.



How we teach

The course is lecture and seminar based. However, it also includes fieldwork over a one-week period in Thailand and its neighbouring countries. The fieldwork aims to give students a practical first hand understanding of development, environment and rural social change at the village level.

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