Introduction to Cambodian Culture  WLKH.2100  201  (3 credits)  Spring 2017

University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML)
College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (FAHSS)
Department of World Languages and Cultures

COURSE: WLKH.2100 201 Introduction to Cambodian Culture
INSTRUCTOR: George Chigas  CLASS TIMES: Tues & Thurs 12:30-1:45, Olsen 114
OFFICE LOCATION: Coburn 107  South Campus
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 2:00-3:00 pm or by appointment
OFFICE PHONE: (978) 934-4341  E-MAIL: George_Chigas@uml.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This 3-credit course focuses on the culture of Cambodia from ancient times to the present. Specifically, this course provides an overview of the geography, demographics, monarchy, religion, architecture, dance & music, literature and performing arts in historical context. The course also requires students to examine contemporary Cambodia in terms of change and continuity with the past.

CORE CURRICULUM COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES & COMPETENCIES

I. To provide to the student with BREADTH OF KNOWLEDGE in Western and Eastern cultures by demonstrating familiarity with several different areas of knowledge and several different modes of inquiry.

II. To develop the student’s CRITICAL THINKING by demonstrating the ability to synthesize information, discover connections, differentiate between facts and opinions, assess evidence, draw conclusions, construct arguments on both sides of a debate using the best available evidence, solve problems, develop and test hypotheses.

III. To teach the student CLEAR COMMUNICATION by demonstrating the ability to communicate effectively: to articulate, support, and defend a position using appropriate modes of communication.

IV. To teach the student CULTURAL DIVERSITY by demonstrating the ability to compare and contrast values and beliefs in different cultures.

1 Federal regulation defines a credit hour as an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutional established equivalence that reasonably approximates not less than: (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) for other activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours” (New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, Policy on Credits and Degrees, Effective July 1, 2011).
Course Goals:

• To develop a broad knowledge of Cambodian culture and cultural institutions
• To understand the multiple forces (political, religious, economic, social, geographic, linguistic, artistic, environmental) that have shaped Cambodian culture
• To think critically about the way Cambodian culture has been studied and represented

Course Outcomes:

At the end of the semester, students should:

• Understand the basic geography, history and traditions of Cambodia
• Recognize some of the key socio-economic and political forces that have shaped the country
• Analyze how the various influences impacting Cambodian society are reflected in the culture and systems of belief

Readings:

• Readings provided by the instructor on Bb.

COMMUNICATIONS

This class will use your university e-mail account. It is your responsibility to have access to it and to know how it works. If you have any difficulty, you can contact the Help Desk at x4357. Please be sure to regularly check your e-mail to be sure you get your messages.

GRADING

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<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
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<td>Weekly Assignments/ Quizzes</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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ATTENDANCE

Class performance includes a number of variables, including but not limited to, your attitude towards learning and your appropriate behavior in class. You are expected to:

1) Bring all necessary materials to class.
2) Be willing to participate and cooperate actively in all class activities.
3) Show respect to the class and your peers and a positive attitude.
4) Be on time for class.
5) Be attentive during class.

Students will be allowed a total of one excused absences. (Use the form below for an excused absence.) After the first absence or any unexcused absence, two points will be deducted from the student’s attendance grade. For example, the maximum points for Attendance toward the total grade is 15. After three excused absences, any future absence (excused or not excused) will result in a deduction of two points, e.g., 18, 16, etc.
GRADES

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Grades are not based on a curve. Students who have not been present to write evaluations (tests and/or quizzes) by the third week of January are failing the course and are advised to withdraw.

HOMEWORK

If you miss class when a homework assignment is announced, it is your responsibility to find out what the assignment is. You will not be given the opportunity to make up work simply because you were not in class to receive the assignment.

Please exchange e-mail addresses and phone numbers with at least three classmates at the start of the semester so that you will have someone to contact to get any information you missed during your absence. Do not contact the instructor regarding work that you missed unless you still have a question after consulting with at least two other classmates.

HANDOUTS

A series of photocopied materials may be given out during the course. Please arrange beforehand for a classmate to procure any handouts should you not be present in class to get the handout(s) for yourself. On occasion, handouts may also be sent to your UML e-mail address.

NOTE ON CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Learning best occurs in a supportive and respectful atmosphere. It is expected that you conduct yourself in a responsible manner. Rudeness and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Since this is a professional presentation at the university level, you are not permitted to eat or drink during class; water is allowed at any time. Cellular phones must be turned off at all times and left out of sight. Text messaging is not permitted during class time. Students are not permitted to tape the lectures without instructor’s permission. Students with disabilities must see the instructor on the first or second day of class to accommodate individual needs.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Be advised that the work that you do should be yours. Plagiarism is a serious offense that will not be tolerated. The consequences of plagiarism include a failure in the course and possible expulsion from the University. Students at UMASS Lowell are expected to be honest and to respect ethical standards in meeting academic assignments and requirements. A student who cheats on an examination or assignment is subject to administrative dismissal.
The following definitions are provided for the information of all students and constitute official notice of prohibited academic practice and behavior:

1) **Cheating is defined as** use, or attempted use, of trickery, artifice, deception, breach of confidence, fraud, or misrepresentation of one’s academic work. Submission of the same work in its entirety for credit in two courses without obtaining the permission of the instructors also constitutes cheating.

2) **Fabrication is defined as** falsification or invention of any information or citation in any academic exercise.

3) **Plagiarism is defined as** representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own work in any academic exercise.

4) **Facilitating dishonesty is defined as** helping or attempting to help another commit an act of academic dishonesty, including substituting for another in an examination, misrepresenting oneself, or allowing others to represent as their own one’s papers, reports, or academic works.

Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy:

http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/policies/academic_dishonesty.htm

**INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES AT UML**

The Center for Learning and Academic Support Services (CLASS) at O’Leary Library 1st floor, South Campus and at Southwick 308, North Campus, is for personal tutorial services, multimedia and WWW exploration.

The Office of Disability Services in Cumnock Hall, Room C6 North Campus (phone: 978-934-4574, e-mail: Disability@uml.edu) offers a number of support services (including adaptive computing lab) related to various types of physical and learning disabilities. Persons with disabilities, which may warrant academic accommodations, must contact the Office of Disability Services in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Division of Student Affairs, University Crossing, Suite 200 (phone: 978-934-2100). If you experience a personal problem that jeopardizes your class performance, contact this office. They will guide you and will contact your professors for the best solutions for a way for you to keep up academically.

**DAILY SCHEDULE**

The daily schedule of lectures and readings is posted on the course Web site. Be sure to print it out and come to class prepared.

| IN CASE OF UNEXPECTED SCHOOL CLOSURE OR CLASS CANCELLATION for any reason, STUDENTS WILL CONTINUE TO COMPLETE THE ASSIGNED WORK AS STATED ON THE SYLLABUS. PLEASE CHECK EMAIL A.S.A.P. FOR INSTRUCTIONS. University Cancellation Line: 978-934-2121 |
PETITION FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

This form must be completed if you have either missed or are planning to miss a scheduled class.

If this petition is approved, averaging your other grades will make up your grade for the missed assignment. Petitions will only be approved if you have a valid and adequately-documented reason for missing the assignment. If the petition is not approved, your grade on the missed assignment will be a zero. Be sure to attach to this form all appropriate supporting documentation, such as a medical form, police report, letter from the athletic department, etc.

NAME: ______________________________________

INSTRUCTOR: _________________________________

COURSE AND CLASS TIME: _______________________

DATE OF ABSENCE: _______________________

REASON: _______________________________

_____Medical   _____Accident   _____Family Problem   _____UMass Lowell sponsored

_____Other _______________________________

EXPLANATION of your reason (please be brief but clear)

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Indicate the DOCUMENTATION you are providing to support your Petition:

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This document is (check one) _____an original   _____a copy

I declare that the information provided on this form is true and accurate.

SIGNATURE: ________________________________ DATE: _________________
Daily Schedule

Intro & Pre-Angkor (0-802)
Tuesday, January 17
Personal Introductions
About the course
Readings (General)
Chandler, David, “The Setting” p. 11-21
Readings (Society)
Chandler, David, “The People,” p. 22-38
Readings (Economy)
Chandler, David, “Cambodian Farmer,” p. 92-105

Thursday, January 19
Readings (General)
Readings (Religion)
Chandler, David, “Religion in Cambodia,” p. 106-120
Assignment #1: Due Sunday, January 22

Angkor Period (802-1431)
Tuesday, January 24
Readings (General)
Chandler, David, “Angkor,” p. 50-76

Thursday, January 26
Readings (Governance)

Tuesday, January 31
Readings (Music & Dance)
Thomson & Phim. Dance in Cambodia, p. 1-14

Thursday, February 2
Readings (Art & Architecture)
Assignment #2: Due Sunday, February 5

Middle Period (1431-1863)
Tuesday, February 7
Readings (Art & Architecture)

Thursday, February 9
Readings (Art & Architecture)

Tuesday, February 14
Readings (Language & Literature)
Dy, Khing Hoc & Mak, Phoeun, "Cambodia" in Southeast Asia, Languages and Literatures (1989)

Thursday, February 16
Readings (Governance)
Assignment #3: Due Sunday, February 19

Colonial Period (1863-1953)
Tuesday, February 21: No Class (Mon Schedule)

Thursday, February 23
Readings (Governance)
Chandler, David, Ch 5, “Independence,” p. 77-91

Tuesday, February 28
Readings (Governance)

Thursday, March 2
Readings (Language & Literature)
Chigas, George. The Story of Tum Teav, Ch. 1
Assignment #4: Due Monday, March 5

Independence (1953-1975)
Tuesday, March 7
Readings (Governance)
Chandler, David, Ch 8, “The Sihanouk Era,” p. 121-141

Thursday, March 9
Readings: TBA

SPRING BREAK (MARCH 13-17)

Tuesday, March 21
Readings: TBA

Thursday, March 23
Review
MIDTERM EXAM (Take Home)

Tuesday, March 28
Readings (Governance)

Thursday, March 30
Readings (Religion)

Hun Sen Period (1979-2000)

Tuesday, April 4
Readings (Governance)

Thursday, April 6
Readings (Art & Architecture)
Gluckman, Ron, “Cambodia’s Offbeat Architecture,” Silk Road, 2008, p 1-5

Tuesday, April 11
Readings (Literature/Didactic)
Little, Harriet Fitch, "Cambodia Authors Forge Khmer Language Literary Revival," (2016)

Readings (Economy & Development)

Thursday, April 13
Readings (Religion)
Marston, John, "Constructing Narratives of Order," p. 163-191

Assignment #5: Due Sunday, April 16

Cambodia Today

Tuesday, April 18
Democracy in Cambodia, The Asia Foundation (2014), p. 3-21