

# Contemporary Indonesian Society and Culture

## Course Profile

### Course Summary

This course is designed for students of Indonesian Language and Studies or Asia Pacific Studies at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The course builds upon current literature, excerpts from news and magazines, as well as other print and digital resources, to offer contemporary knowledge of Indonesian society and culture. It examines the development of the Indonesian language and covers areas of Indonesian culture, society, politics, economy, education, religion, environment, media, and sports. It tackles current issues and emerging trends in contemporary Indonesia including *#IndonesiaMaju*, *cebong* and *kampret*, *generasi* millennial, infrastructure development, hoaxes in social media, the surge of religious populism, among others.

### Assumed Background

The course makes no assumptions about previous training in linguistics, cultural studies or Indonesian studies. Knowledge of the Indonesian language is essential.

### Delivery Mode

Lecture (1 hour) and Tutorial (2 hours)

### Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have the knowledge and skills to:

1. Examine current issues and emerging trends in contemporary Indonesia
2. Recognise the dynamic and evolving nature of Indonesian society
3. Critically analyse issues and trends in Indonesian society
4. Present analysis of issues and trends to an audience
5. Develop collaborative digital skills to work on an Indonesian-related project

Week	Topic	Content
1	Introduction to the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives</li> <li>• Learning activities</li> <li>• Study requirements</li> <li>• Assessments</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Profile</li> </ul>		
2	Indonesia's linguistic diversity and the Indonesian language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia's linguistic diversity</li> <li>• Language endangerment</li> <li>• Early development of Indonesian</li> <li>• Indonesian as a language planning project</li> <li>• The many faces of Indonesian</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: Indonesia's linguistic diversity and the Indonesian language</li> </ul>		
3	Development and economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development in previous eras (Soekarno, Soeharto, Abdurrahman Wahid, Megawati Soekarnoputri, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono)</li> <li>• Development in Jokowi's era</li> <li>• Population demography and mobility</li> <li>• Infrastructure development and economic growth</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: Infrastructure development and economic growth</li> </ul>		
4	<i>#IndonesiaMaju</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia as a developing nation</li> <li>• The Majapahit Myth and <i>Indonesia Maju</i></li> <li>• 2045: Indonesia's Golden Anniversary and Indonesian as an international language</li> <li>• Indonesia as a developed nation?</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: <i>#IndonesiaMaju</i></li> </ul>		
5	<i>Jokowi 3 Periode?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joko Widodo: from humble beginnings</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrepreneur, Mayor, Governor, President: Jokowi the man and politician</li> <li>• Jokowi's style of politics</li> <li>• Continuation of national projects and leadership extension</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: <i>Jokowi 3 periode?</i></li> </ul>		
6	Hoaxes in social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rise of social media in Indonesia</li> <li>• Political hoaxes</li> <li>• The hoax of Ratna Sarumpaet</li> <li>• Covid-19-related hoaxes</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: Hoaxes in social media</li> </ul>		
7	<i>Cebong and Kampret</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The origin of <i>cebong</i> and <i>kampret</i></li> <li>• <i>Cebong</i> and <i>Kampret</i> in the 2014 and 2019 elections</li> <li>• Behind the Scenes: Denny Siregar vs. Haikal Hassan Baras</li> <li>• Social polarisation</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Module: <i>Cebong</i> and <i>Kampret</i></li> </ul>		
8	The surge of religious populism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Islamic hardliners in Indonesia: Hizbut Tahrir and Ikhwanul Muslimin</li> <li>• Rizieq Shihab and <i>Front Pembela Islam</i></li> <li>• The case of Ahok (2017)</li> <li>• Religious politics</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course module: The surge of religious populism</li> </ul>		
9	<i>Kadrin</i> and religious intolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From <i>Kampret</i> to <i>Kadrin</i></li> <li>• Islamic hardliners in <i>Kadrin</i></li> <li>• Cases of religious intolerance from early 2000s</li> <li>• Minister Yaqut against intolerance</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course module: <i>Kadrun</i> and religious intolerance</li> </ul>		
10	<i>Generasi</i> millennial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indonesia's young demography</li> <li>Youtubers: From Deddy Corbuzier to Atta Halilintar</li> <li>Singers: Siti Badriah, Sandrina Mayaza, Tian Storm</li> <li>Actors: Reza Rahadian, Chelsea Islan, Prisia Nasution</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course module: <i>Generasi</i> millennial</li> </ul>		
11	Environmental issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Destruction of Indonesia's forests</li> <li>Plastic everywhere</li> <li>Waste Management</li> <li>Greenpeace and Ministry of Environment and Forestry</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course module: Environmental issues</li> </ul>		
12	Education in Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 1994 <i>Wajib Belajar 9 Tahun</i></li> <li>Literacy rates</li> <li>Indonesia in TIMSS and PISA</li> <li>Indonesia's Roadmap of Education</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course module: Education in Indonesia</li> </ul>		
13	Sports: From <i>Sepakbola</i> to <i>Bulu Tangkis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indonesia: A sports nation?</li> <li><i>Sepakbola</i>: From Ricky Yacobi to Bambang Pamungkas</li> <li><i>Bulu Tangkis</i>: Susi Susanti and Markis Kido</li> <li>Other sports: volleyball, chess, basketball, swimming</li> </ul>
<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course module: Sports: From <i>Sepakbola</i> to <i>Bulu Tangkis</i></li> </ul>		

## Assessments

Online Quiz: 10%

Tutorial Participation: 10%

Presentation: 30%

Collaborative Project: 50%

### 1. Online Quiz

Weighting: 10 % over 10 weeks

Mode: Individual work

Format: Multiple choice, true or false, fill in the blank

Description: Students are required to complete an online quiz (10 questions each) based on required weekly readings from weeks 2-11. The quiz is available every Wednesday in a given week until the day of the lecture the following week. The quiz must be completed before the lecture of the designated week. Students are not allowed to complete the quiz after the lecture.

Submission: Blackboard

### 2. Tutorial Participation

Weighting: 10%

Mode: Individual work

Format: Group discussions

Description: Students are required to participate actively in weekly tutorials. Assessment will be made on the basis of attendance and contributions to group discussions.

### 3. Presentation

Weighting: 30%

Mode: Group work

Description: Students are to form a group (3-4 members) and work collaboratively in a presentation project. They must select an issue relevant to Indonesia and analyse it critically. Topics may be drawn from weekly readings, but other sources must be consulted; for example, deforestation in Indonesia, social polarisation, the rise of Indonesian Youtubers. Students must create a PowerPoint file consisting of no more than 25 slides (including references) and do a presentation of about 25 minutes. The presentation must be conducted in the Indonesian language. Each member must present in roughly equal amount of time. Presentations are distributed across tutorial sessions from weeks 3-12. Detailed presentation procedures are available on Blackboard.

Length: 25 minutes

Due dates: Weeks 3-12

Criteria and marking: Available on Blackboard.

#### **4. Collaborative Digital Project**

Weighting: 50%

Mode: Group work

Description:

Students are required to work in groups to create a twenty-minute digital video on an Indonesian-related project.

The project must address one of the issues currently emerging in Indonesia; for example, the education of *anak jalanan*, the scarcity of water in dry areas. Students must identify the background or factors contributing to the emergence of the issue. They also need to outline Indonesia's resources (or lack thereof) relevant to the issue, and whether effort has been made to address the issue. Solutions to the issue or problem must be offered.

The project is presented in a digital video, which may be developed in any range of narratives (e.g., web-based stories, interactive stories, hypertexts). Students may use any forms of digital tools such as iMovie, Microsoft Photos and WeVideo. Students will be divided into groups of four based on their cultural backgrounds. Attempts will be made to ensure good representation of cultural diversity, so that where possible, a group consists of people of four different cultural backgrounds, or at least people of two different cultural backgrounds. Students are encouraged to be creative and engaging in their work, however, they must ensure that all members of the group have an equal share of contribution within the allocated time.

A transcript must be submitted along with a video format of the project. Technological assistance may be provided by the ICT Unit of the University.

Submission: Submit the transcript to Turnitin and the digital story in a video format via a link in the assessment folder.

Length: 20 minutes

Due date: Week 13

Criteria and marking: Available on Blackboard.

#### **Recommended readings**

Abas, H. (1987). *Indonesian as a unifying language of wider communication: A historical and sociolinguistic perspective*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics, ANU.

Alisjahbana, S. T. (1966). *Indonesia: Social and cultural revolution*. London: Oxford University Press.

Alisjahbana, S. T. (1976). *Language planning for modernization: The case of Indonesia and Malaysia*. The Hague: De Gruyter Mouton.

Anderson, B. R. O'G. (1990). *Language and power: Exploring political cultures in Indonesia*. London: Cornell University Press.

- Arka, I. W. (2013). Language management and minority language maintenance in (eastern) Indonesia: Strategic issues. *Language Documentation and Conservation*, 7, 74–105.
- Bertrand, J. (2004). *Nationalism and ethnic conflict in Indonesia*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Bogaerts, E. (2017). Mediating the local: Representing Javanese cultures on local television in Indonesia. *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 48(2), 196-218.  
doi:10.1017/S0022463417000042
- Bowden, F. J. (2013). Language and basic education in Indonesia. *Linguistik Indonesia*, 31(1), 1–13.
- Chambert-Loir, H., & Collins, J. T. (1984). Those who speak prokem. *Indonesia*, 37, 105-117.
- Cribb, R. (2013). *Historical atlas of Indonesia*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Dardjowidjojo, S. (2010). Bahasa dan pola berpikir bangsa kita. *Linguistik Indonesia*, 28(2), 105–112.
- Davidson, J., & Henley, D. (Eds.). (2007). *The revival of tradition in Indonesian politics: The deployment of adat from colonialism to indigenism*. London: Routledge.
- Latif, Y., & Ibrahim, I. S. (Eds.), *Bahasa dan kekuasaan: Politik wacana di panggung Orde Baru*. Bandung: Mizan.
- Djafar, H. (2009). *Masa akhir Majapahit*. Depok: Komunitas Bambu.
- Eklof, S. (2004). *Power and political culture in Suharto's Indonesia: The Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) and the decline of the new order (1986-98)*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Errington, J. J. (1998c). *Shifting languages: Interaction and identity in Javanese Indonesia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Foulcher, K. (2000). Sumpah pemuda: The making and meaning of a symbol of Indonesian nationhood. *Asian Studies Review*, 24(3), 377–410.
- Foulcher, K., Moriyama, M., & Budiman, M. (Eds.) (2010) *Words in motion: Language and discourse in post-new order Indonesia*. Tokyo: Research Institute for Language and Cultures of Asia and Africa.
- Frederick, W. H., & Worden, R. L. (2011). *Indonesia: A country study*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.
- Gil, D. (2010). Riau Indonesian: What kind of language is it? *Linguistik Indonesia*, 28(2), 113–140.
- Goebel, Z. (2008). Language, class, and ethnicity in Indonesia. *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 164(1), 69-101.
- Goebel, Z. (2015). *Language and superdiversity: Indonesians knowledging at home and abroad*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Harper, M. (2013). *One nation, one people, one language: The story of Indonesia and bahasa Indonesia*. Macerata: Edizioni Università di Macerata.
- Heryanto, A. (1995). *Language of development and development of language: The case of Indonesia*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics, ANU.

- Heryanto, A. (2005). *State terrorism and political identity in Indonesia: Fatally belonging*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Hill, H. (Ed.). (2014). *Regional dynamics in a decentralized Indonesia*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.
- Hoey, B. A. (2003). Nationalism in Indonesia: Building imagined and intentional communities through transmigration. *Ethnology*, 42(2), 109-126.
- Hooker, V. M. (Ed.). (1993). *Culture and society in New Order Indonesia* (pp. 272–293). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Jones, T. (2013). *Culture, power, and authoritarianism in the Indonesian state: Cultural policy across the twentieth century to the reform era*. Leiden: Brill.
- Laffan, M. F. (2003). *Islamic nationhood and colonial Indonesia: The Umma below the winds*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Legge, J. D. (2003). *Sukarno: A political biography* (3rd ed.). Singapore: Archipelago Press.
- Langston, E. (2001). Producing the ideal national citizen: An analysis of language, power and the individual in New Order Indonesia. *Working papers of centre of Southeast Asian studies*. Melbourne: Monash Asia Institute.
- Lim, H., & Mead, D. (2011). *Chinese in Indonesia: A background study*. Dallas, TX: SIL International.
- Machmudi, Y. (2008). *Islamising Indonesia: The rise of Jemaah Tarbiyah and the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS)*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics, ANU Press.
- Miksic, J. (Ed.). (1991). *Ancient history: The Indonesian heritage series*. Singapore: Archipelago Press.
- Naim, M. (1985). Implications of merantau for social organisation in Minangkabau. In L. Thomas & F. Benda-Beckmann (Eds.), *Change and continuity in Minangkabau: Local regional and historical perspectives on West Sumatra* (pp. 111-117). Athens, OH: Ohio University Press.
- Purwo, B. K. (2014). Constructing a new grammar of Indonesian: From expectation to reality. In E. Tagliacozzo (Ed.), *Producing Indonesia: The state of the field of Indonesian studies* (pp. 195-216). New York, NY: Cornell Southeast Asia Program Publications.
- Ricklefs, M. C. (1993). *A history of modern Indonesia since c. 1200*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Sen, K., & Hill, D. (2000). *Media, culture and politics in Indonesia*. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.
- Simons, G. F., & Fennig, C. D. (Eds.). (2017). *Ethnologue: Languages of Indonesia* (20th ed.). Dallas, TX: SIL International.
- Smith-Hefner, N. J. (2007). Youth language, gaul sociability and the new Indonesian middle class. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 17(2), 184-203.
- Sneddon, J. (2003a). *The Indonesian language: Its history and role in modern society*. Sydney: The University of New South Wales Press.
- Sneddon, J. (2003b). Diglossia in Indonesian. *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 159(4), 519-549.



- Sneddon, J. N. (2006). *Colloquial Jakartan Indonesian*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics.
- Tan, C. (2012). *Islamic education and indoctrination: The case of Indonesia*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Taylor, J. G. (2003). *Indonesia: Peoples and histories*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Vickers, A. (2013). *A history of modern Indonesia* (2nd ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Zein, S. (2019). English, multilingualism and globalisation in Indonesia: A love triangle. *English Today*, 35(1), 48-53. doi:10.1017/S026607841800010X
- Zein, S. (2020). *Language policy in superdiverse Indonesia*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Zentz, L. (2017). *Statehood, scale and hierarchy: History, language and identity in Indonesia*. Bristol: Multilingual Matters.