

Indigenous Development

Indigenous Development in Malaysia

January 2019 Learning Cluster

Soka University of America



Dr. Shane Joshua Barter
sbarter@soka.edu

Office: Maathai 310 **Class:** Maathai 305
Hours: 1000-1130, 1300-1430

In 1993, the United Nations declared the 'Year of Indigenous Peoples', followed by a subsequent decade of prioritizing indigenous communities. Indigenous peoples have long borne the brunt of colonialism, migration, development policies, capitalist exploitation, and assimilation. In recent decades, the label 'indigenous' has been reclaimed as a source of pride, with efforts to promote new forms of self-government and cultural revival.

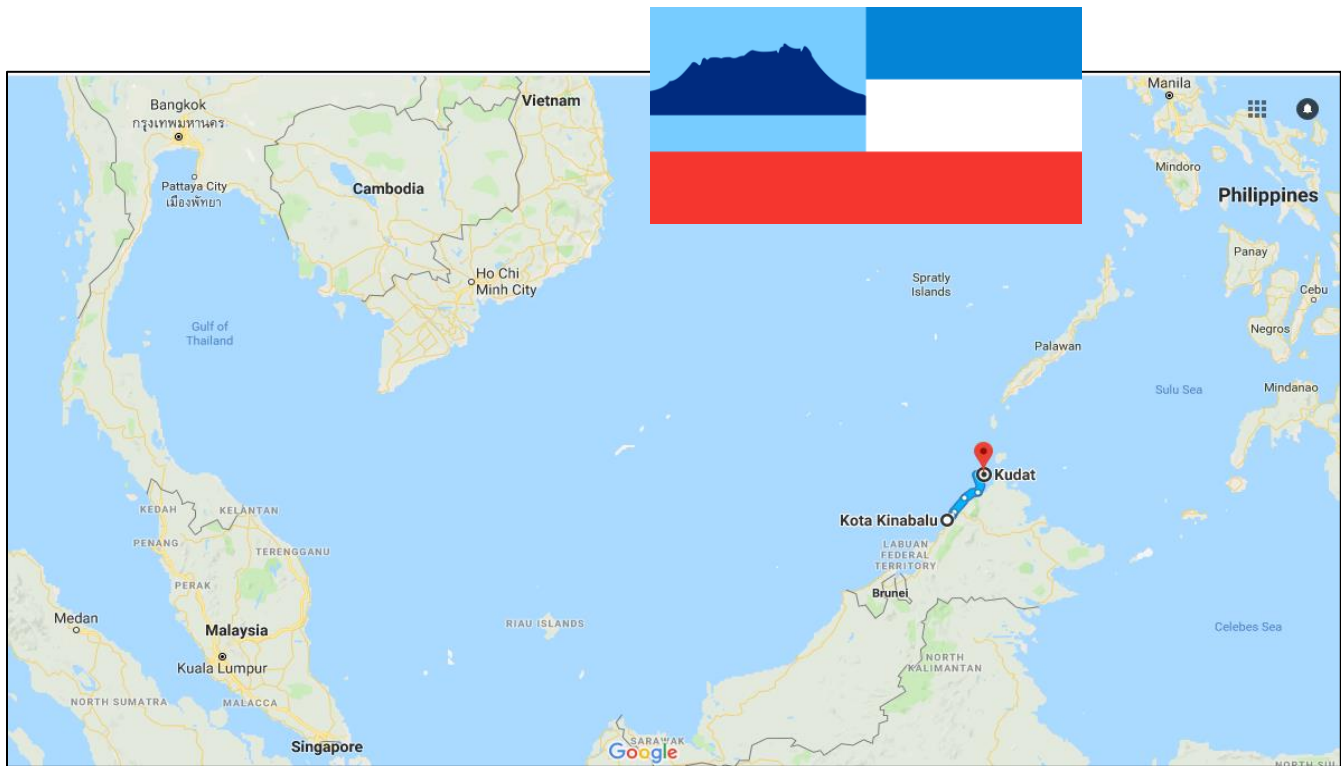
This said, the meaning of 'indigenous' varies by national context. In Anglo settler countries, indigenous peoples were those present prior to European colonialism, their populations decimated by disease and forcibly sedentarized, remaining as largely separate communities today. In Asia, 'indigenous' tends to refer to populations historically detached from global trade and cultural influences, sometimes referred to as 'hill tribes', those on the margins of traditional lowland states. Indigenous peoples in Asia typically live in states dominated by communities that are also native, but not quite indigenous. As the politics of indigeneity has globalized, 'hill tribes' and other communities have embraced this identity. At the same time, we see new approaches to indigenous development and participation in broader political and economic spheres. If indigenous peoples are defined by tradition and isolation, what are the possibilities for development?

Our Learning Cluster seeks to better understand indigenous peoples and development in Asia. With the support of the Nieves Family Travel Grant, we are traveling to Sabah, Malaysia, where we will engage with Kadazandusun communities. Malaysia has recently democratized, with indigenous parties in Sabah allied with the new government. As an emerging economy, Malaysia has seen considerable development, although the benefits have been uneven. Indigenous communities have struggled to engage in a global economy and national politics. Malaysia is especially interesting due to its varying levels of autochthony. Kadazan, Dusun, Murut, and Bajau are considered indigenous, but the Malay Muslim majority are also natives, identified as Bumiputra (sons of the soil), in contrast to migrant Chinese and Indian communities. Malaysia thus represents a unique case to explore the meanings of 'indigenous', 'native', and 'migrant'.

Our class is interested in several questions: How does the concept of indigenous peoples apply to highland communities in Asia? How have Malaysia's indigenous peoples reacted to European colonialism and Malay supremacy? What is the role of religion, specifically Christianity, for indigenous identity in a Muslim-majority country? What is the potential for transnational indigenous solidarity? Does tourism represent a useful strategy to promote native development? How have indigenous people helped to shape, as well as reacted to, Malaysian democratization?

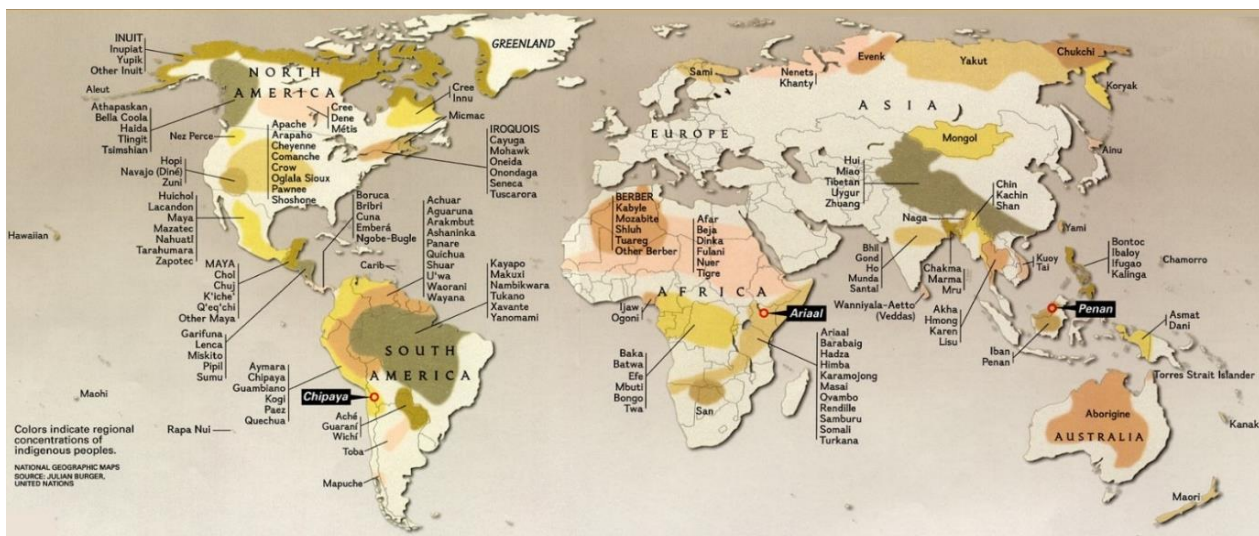
Roster

Name	Class	Nationality
Shane Barter		Canada
Mark Hon-Yao Chia	2020	Singapore / USA
Abigail Felix	2020	USA
Sho Nakata	2020	Japan
Tracy Bartolome	2021	USA
Lily Feast	2021	USA
Shunji Fueki	2021	Japan
Rafael Schultz	2021	USA
Daisuke Takeuchi	2021	Japan
Kano Umezaki	2021	USA
Nini Vo	2021	USA
Thuy Le	2022	Vietnam
Farida Refaat Elhedk	2022	Egypt



Budget

	Estimates	Actual	+/-
Airfare	\$16,500	\$16,300	-200
About \$1250 / person			
Accommodation	\$2500	\$2300	-200
Ten nights, Kota Kinabalu: \$1800		MYR 7208, \$1700	
One night, Misompuru Homestay: \$700		MYR 2450 (188 x 13), \$600	
One night, Singapore: \$13		\$15	
Other Transport	\$3000	\$2300	-700
KK Out Van / Driver: 9-11 days: \$2500		\$11850	
Shuttle to / from LAX: \$400		\$250 roundtrip, \$100 Lyft x 2	
Other Taxis, Transit: \$100			
Food	\$4500	\$2900	-1600
\$27 / day (100 MYR) x 13 = \$350 / day x 12 days		Groceries: \$150	
		Meals: \$2500	
		Goodbye Dinner: \$250	
Other	\$500	\$800	+300
Park entry, SIM cards, visa, medicine, LC Fair		Four SIMs (\$55), Courier (\$5), Medicine (\$30), KDCA (\$300), souvenirs (\$150), stamps, Visa (\$50), Singapore (\$200)	
Total	\$27,00	\$24,600	-\$2400
Course Budget	\$2,000		
NFF Grant	\$25,000		



World Indigenous Communities (National Geographic 2017)

Assignments

30% Participation

Ongoing

Participation is understood broadly to include student contributions to the class from the early planning stages through to the LC Fair. It means being a good team member in the field, communicating effectively with the instructor and classmates, helping to plan meetings and document our experiences, sharing thoughts on readings, and supporting each other.

20% Book Review

Present 07-12 January, due Friday 12 January

Students will read a book related to the course topic and prepare a brief (2-3 pages) analysis of the book's key themes and contributions. This is to be submitted and presented during the first week of class. Books must be selected before the end of the Fall semester, in consultation with the instructor, to be read over the holiday break. It is recommended that the book be related to indigenous peoples in Asia; indigenous economics; indigenous ecology; or indigenous politics. Reviews will be assessed in terms of their ability to critically evaluate the book's core topic, as well as sources, audiences, and shortcomings. The reviews will be presented in class, 5-8 mins in length, with the core goal being to teach your classmates about your book.

10% Presentations: World Indigeneity

Tuesday PM, 08 January





Students will prepare a brief (5-8 mins) presentation about an indigenous community of their choice. Students should communicate their selection with the instructor at least one week before the first day of class. The presentation should paint a brief portrait of who this community is, how they define their indigeneity, and what are their contemporary challenges. Presentations will be evaluated in terms of their clarity, creativity, engagement with the course topic, ability to engage with the class, and timing.

40% Research Paper



Due Thursday, 31 January


Students will prepare a 5-8 page research paper on some aspect of indigenous development, preferably grounded in the cases we explored. Students are expected to think about their paper during our prospective time abroad, and may consider collecting some resources as we travel. Papers must present a clear research question and argument. Citation style is up to the student, so long as they do it properly (mimic the style you find in an article that you like). Topics are to be decided in consultation with the instructor. Because the topic and style of the paper is flexible, there is no single rubric according to which course papers will be evaluated. For all papers, assessment will include consideration of clarity of argument, organization, quality of sources, engagement with sources, and writing style.

Calendar





07 January Monday 10-1130am Session 01	Introduction What is the course about? What is 'indigeneity'? Why does it matter? Can a community be both 'developed' and indigenous?
	Jeremy Hance, " Indigenous People Fight for their Rights. Governments and Businesses Call Them Terrorists ," <i>Huffington Post</i> (07 September 2018) AND <i>Minority Rights Group</i> , " Malaysia: Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities in Sabah "
BREAK (1130-1)	
1-230pm Session 02	Ideas of Indigeneity What does it mean to be 'indigenous'? <i>Settler colonialism; First Nations; Native Americans; Fourth World; indigenous activism</i>
	Taiaiake Alfred and Jeff Corntassel, "Being Indigenous: Resurgences against Contemporary Colonialism," <i>Government and Opposition</i> 40:4 (2005); pp. 597-614 AND Celine Germond-Duret, "Tradition and Modernity: An Obsolete Dichotomy? Binary Thinking, Indigenous Peoples and Normalisation," <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 37.9 (2016); pp. 1537-1558 AND Alberto Gomes, "Anthropology and the Politics of Indigeneity," <i>Anthropological Forum</i> 23:1 (2013); pp. 5-15
Present Book Reviews: Shunji, Sho, Rafael	
08 January Tuesday 10-1130am Session 03	Global Indigenous, Indigenous in Asia How has the concept of indigeneity spread globally? How is indigeneity understood in Asia? <i>ILO; UN Year of Indigenous Peoples; State of the World's Indigenous Peoples (SOWIP); Ainu (Japan); Gaoshan (Taiwan); 'uncooked'; hill tribes; Dayak; missionaries</i>
	Jan Lüdert, "Latin American States and the International Labour Organization: Circumscribing Indigenous Peoples as Internal Outsiders," <i>Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies</i> 8:3 (2013); pp. 336-351 AND Roland Platz, "Buddhism and Christianity in Competition? Religious and Ethnic Identity in Karen Communities of Northern Thailand," <i>Journal of Southeast Asian Studies</i> 34:3 (2003); pp. 473-490 AND Tomonori Sugimoto, "Settler Colonial Incorporation and Inheritance: Historical Sciences, Indigeneity, and Settler Narratives in Post-WWII Taiwan," <i>Settler Colonial Studies</i> 8:3; pp. 283-297
Present Book Reviews: Mark, Lily, Nini	
BREAK (1130-1)	
1-230pm Session 04	Student Presentations: World Indigeneity
09 January Wednesday 10-1130am Session 05	Indigenous in Sabah, Malaysia Who are the Kadazan-Dusun? What challenges do they face? <i>About Malaysia; Truly Asia; democratization</i> <i>About Sabah; Kadazan; Dusun; Murut; Bajau; Christianity & Islam; Migration</i>
	Johan Saravanamuttu & Ooi Kee Beng, "Malaysia," in <i>Southeast Asia in a New Era</i> , edited by Rodolfo C. Severino, Elspeth Thomson, & Mark Hong (Singapore: ISEAS, 2010); pp. 113-130 AND

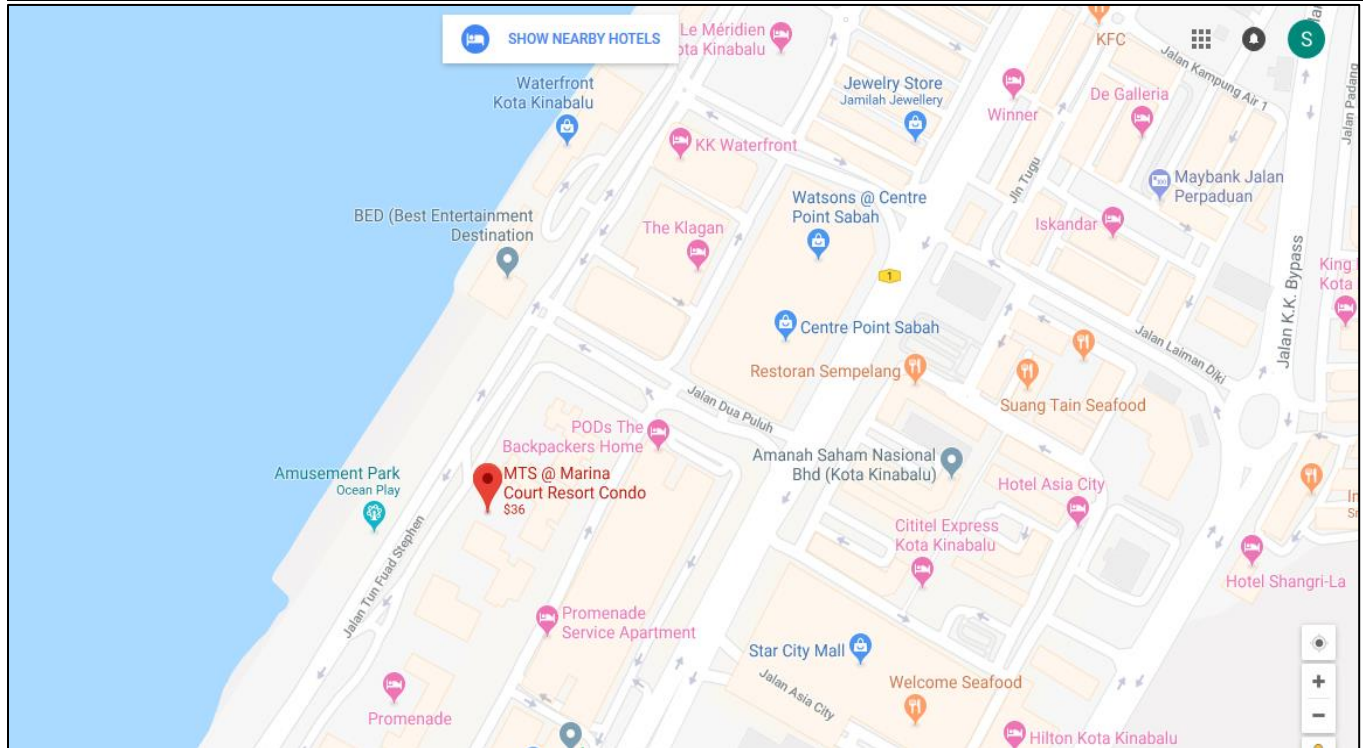
	Fausto Barlocco, "An Inconvenient Birth: The Formation of a Modern Kadazan Culture and Its Marginalization within the Making of the Malaysian Nation (1953-2007)," <i>Indonesia and the Malay World</i> 41:119 (2013); pp. 116-141 AND Amity A. Doolittle, "Powerful Persuasions: The Language of Property and Politics in Sabah, Malaysia (North Borneo), 1881-1996," <i>Modern Asian Studies</i> 38:4; pp. 821-850
BREAK (1130-1)	
1-230pm Session 06	Indigenous in Sabah (ctd)
Present Book Reviews: Daisuke, Abigail	


10 January Thursday 10-1130am Session 07	Indigenous Development in Sabah <i>Economics: NEP, Land Rights, Palm Oil, Logging</i>
	Konrad Yakabuski, "Woods War II," <i>The Globe and Mail</i> (28 April 2008) AND Zawawi Ibrahim, "The New Economic Policy and the Identity Question of the Indigenous Peoples of Sabah and Sarawak," in <i>The New Economic Policy in Malaysia</i> , edited by Edmund Terence Gomez and Johan Saravanamuttu (Singapore: NUS Press, 2012); pp. 293-313 AND S. Robert Aiken and Colin H. Leigh, "In the Way of Development: Indigenous Land-Rights Issues in Malaysia," <i>Geographical Review</i> 101:4; 471-496
Present Book Reviews: Farida, Thuy	
1-230pm Session 08	Indigenous Development in Sabah <i>Ecology, Ecotourism, Palm Oil, Education</i>
	<i>World Wildlife Fund</i> , " Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard: Malaysia and Singapore 2017. " AND Rajanathan Rajaratnam et al, "Ecotourism and Indigenous Communities: The Lower Kinabatangan Experience," in <i>Tourism at the Grassroots: Villagers and Visitors in the Asia-Pacific</i> , edited by John Connell and Barbara Rugendyke (Routledge: 2008); pp. 236-255
Present Book Reviews: Tracy	


11 January Friday 1-230pm Session 09	Indigenous Development in Sabah <i>Politics: UMNO, Warisan, Pakatan Harapan, Moro Migration</i>
	James Chin, "Exporting the BN/UMNO Model: Politics in Sabah and Sarawak," in <i>Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Malaysia</i> , edited by Meredith Weiss (Routledge: 2008); pp. 83-92. AND Farish A. Noor, " A New Player in Sabah Politics ," <i>RSIS Commentary</i> 262 (2016); 1-3 AND Arnold Puyok and Tony Bagang, "Ethnicity, Culture, & Indigenous Leadership in Modern Politics: The Case of the Kadazandusun in Sabah, East Malaysia," <i>Kajian Malaysia</i> 29:1 (2011); pp. 177-197 AND Bridget Welsh, " Is Sabah Ready for Political Change? " <i>Malaysiakini</i> (April 2018)
Present Book Reviews: Kano	
Book Reviews Due	


Travel to / Arrival in Malaysia


12 January Saturday	Depart California		
	1200 1515	Leave SUA Depart LAX	Super Shuttle, 1 hour Singapore Airlines Flight SQ11 (11hr45)
13 January Sunday	In the Air		
	2000 2055	Arrive NRT, Japan Depart NRT, Japan	Singapore Airlines SQ11 (same plane) (7hr40)
14 January Monday	Arrive Kota Kinabalu		
	0335 0845 1055 1200	Arrive SIN Depart SIN Arrive Kota Kinabalu To Apartment	Silk Air Flight MI392 (2hr10) KK Leisure Shuttle: Michael
	Ten nights, MTS @ Marina Court Resort Condo B-01-04 1st Floor Block B, Jalan Tun Fuad Stephens		








15 January Tuesday	Meetings: About the Kadazan / Dusun		
	1030 1500 1900	Kadazandusun Cultural Association (KDCA) and Koisaan Cultural Village Attendees include Suman Yasambun (Secretary General); emceed by Keddy Kadazandusun Language Foundation: Philip and Rita Lasimbang (Founders) Dinner: Parti Cinta Sabah members	


16 January Wednesday	Meetings: Education and Tourism	
	0900 1400	Universiti Teknologi MARA: Tony Bagang (Professor); Trixie Tangit; students Pacos Trust: Anne Lasimbang (Executive Director); Sabah Tourism Association: Pauline Chin; Camp Borneo: Melanie Chu; Chanteek Borneo Indigenous Museum: Anne Antah; Lavinia Art Gallery: Christianne Goonting


17 January Thursday	Meetings: Eco-Development	
	1000 1400	Lightup Borneo: Ong Boon Keung; Borneo Komrad; Pongo Society; Anna Bundarakata (artist) Borneo Ecotours: Albert Teo (Director)


18 January Friday	Meetings	
	0900 1200 1400	Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia: Suzan, Hedley, Ovia, Paulos Kadazandusun Native Market Floating Mosque

19 January Saturday	Drive to Kudat, Misompuru Village	
	0930 1400	Depart Kota Kinabalu Arrive Minyak Village: Misompuru Homestay
		- Welcome; Meet Host Family - Visit Oil Well / Mangroves; Swimming at Beach - Dinner with Host Family; Bead & Cloth Making; Karaoke
		1 Night, Misompuru Homestay http://misompuruhomestay.yolasite.com/



20 January Sunday	Misompuru Village, Drive to Kota Kinabalu	
		- Breakfast with Host Family - Crab Mangrove Walk; Honey Bee Farm; Rungus Longhouse - Lunch with Host Family; tree Planting; Coconuts; Goodbye
	1400 1800	Depart Minyak Village Arrive Kota Kinabalu


21 January Monday	Meetings	
	1100 1230 1500	Artist Meeting: Tressie Yap & Monika (Arkitek) Lunch; Political Parties; JOAS Artist Meeting: Pangrok Sulap (Rizo)

22 January Tuesday	Meetings	
	1000	St. Michael's Catholic Church
	1100	Sabah United Party: Yee Moh Chia & Merilus Roman
	1300	Indonesian Padang Lunch
	1400	Warisan: Jenifer Lasimbang at Pacos Trust


23 January Wednesday	Free Day Recommended that students dedicate some time to considering research papers	
	0930	Students to Islands and Museum, Shane coffee work
	1830	Goodbye Dinner at D'Place: Tony (UiTM); Pangrok Sulap; Ong (Lightup Borneo); UiTM students; Kiyoko Nakano (SUA Alumna)


Travel Home

24 January Thursday	Depart Malaysia		
	0900	Leave Apartment	KK Leisure Shuttle
	1145	Depart BKI	Silk Air Flight MI391 (2hr15)
	1400	Arrive SIN	
	1600	Hosted by Mark's Dad!	Driving Tour, Home of Seafood
	1 Night, Hotel Royal @ Queens (12 Queen Street, Bugis Str)		

25 January Friday	Return to California		
	0920	Depart SIN	Singapore Airlines Flight SQ12 (6hr45)
	1705	Arrive NRT (Japan)	
	1830	Depart NRT	Singapore Airlines Flight SQ12 (10hr00)
	1130	Arrive LAX	
	1230	SuperShuttle to SUA	

On Campus: What We Learned

28 January Monday 10-1130am Session 11	Looking Ahead: Global <i>Towards Indigenous Development</i>		
	Kevin Hindle and Michele Lansdowne, "Brave Spirits on New Paths: Toward a Globally Relevant Program of Indigenous Entrepreneurship Research," <i>Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship</i> 18:2 (2005); pp. 131-142		
	AND		
	Stephen May and Sheila Aikman, "Indigenous Education: Addressing Current Issues and Developments," <i>Comparative Education</i> 39:2 (2003); pp. 139-145		
	AND		
	Sheryl Lightfoot, "Settler Apologies to Indigenous Peoples: A Normative Framework and Comparative Assessment," <i>Native American and Indigenous Studies</i> 2:1 (2015); pp. 15-39		
	BREAK (1130-1)		

1-230pm Session 12	Looking Ahead: Sabah <i>The Future of Indigenous Development in Sabah</i>
	<p>Fadzilah Majid Cooke, “Constructing Rights: Indigenous Peoples at the Public Hearings of the National Inquiry into Customary Rights to Land in Sabah, Malaysia,” <i>Sojourn</i> 28:3 (2013); pp. 512-537</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>Durie Rainer Fong, “Drop ‘Native’, Use Indigenous Instead, Suggests CJ,” <i>Free Malaysia Today</i> (17 January 2019)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>Tracy Patrick, “Ex-Sabah UMNO Leaders on a Quest for Revenge Through PPBM, Says Warisan Man,” <i>Free Malaysia Today</i> (30 December 2018)</p>

29 January Tuesday	Conclusions / Course Evaluations Work Day: LC Fair and Essays
------------------------------	--

30 January Wednesday	LC Fair
--------------------------------	----------------

31 January Thursday	Papers Due
-------------------------------	-------------------

Bibliography

- Ali, Saleem H. (2003). *Mining, the Environment, and Indigenous Development Conflicts*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.
- Blaser, Mario, Harvey A. Feit, and Glenn McRae, editors (2004). *In the Way of Development: Indigenous Peoples, Life Projects, and Globalization*. London: Zed Books.
- Brown, Michael E. and Sumit Ganguly, editors (2003). *Fighting Words: Language Policy and Ethnic Relations in Asia*. MIT Press.
- Doolittle, Amity (2011). *Property and Politics in Sabah, Malaysia: Native Struggles Over Land Rights*. University of Washington Press.
- Duncan, Christopher, editor (2008). *Civilizing the Margins: Southeast Asian Government Policies for the Development of Minorities*. Singapore: NUS Press.
- Engle, Karen (2010). *The Elusive Promise of Indigenous Development: Rights, Culture, Strategy*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Gerharz, Eva, Nasir Uddin, and Pradeep Chakkarath, editors (2017). *Indigeneity on the Move: Varying Manifestations of a Contested Concept*. Berghahn Books.
- Goh, Daniel P.S., Matilda Gabrielpillai, Philip Holden, and Gaik Cheng Khoo (2009). *Race and Multiculturalism in Malaysia and Singapore*. New York: Routledge
- Hall, Thomas D. and James V. Fenelon (2009). *Indigenous Peoples and Globalization: Resistance and Revitalization*. Paradigm Publishers.
- Hassan, Saliha and Meredith Weiss, editors (2003). *Social Movements in Malaysia: From Moral Communities to NGOs*. Routledge.
- Hefner, Robert (2001). *The Politics of Multiculturalism: Pluralism and Citizenship in Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- International Working for Indigenous Peoples (2018). *The Indigenous World*. Annual Report available at <https://www.iwgia.org/en/resources/yearbook>
- Islam, Saiful M. (2015). *Pursuing Alternative Development: Indigenous People, Ethnic Organization and Agency*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Keith, Agnes Newton (1939). *Land Below the Wind*. Any edition. If read for book review, include one of her companion books: *Three Came Home, White Man Returns*.
- Kymlicka, Will and Baogang He, editors (2005). *Multiculturalism in Asia*. Oxford University Press.
- Lian, Kwen Fee (2006). *Race, Ethnicity, and the State in Malaysia and Singapore*. Leiden: Brill.
- Lightfoot, Sheryl (2016). *Global Indigenous Politics: A Subtle Revolution*. Routledge.
- Mackerras, Colin (2003). *Ethnicity in Asia*. London: Routledge Curzon, 2003.
- Mauzy, Diane K. and R.S. Milne (1999). *Malaysian Politics under Mahathir*. New York: Routledge.
- Mauzy, Diane K. and R.S. Milne (2002). *Singapore Politics under the People's Action Party*. New York: Routledge.
- Nichol, Raymond (2011). *Growing up Indigenous: Developing Effective Pedagogy for Education and Development*. Sense Publishers.
- Pearson, David (2001). *The Politics of Ethnicity in Settler Societies: States of Unease*. New York: Palgrave.
- Prasad, Karolina (2016). *Identity Politics and Elections in Malaysia and Indonesia: Ethnic Engineering in Borneo*. Routledge.
- Sillitoe, Paul, editor (2007). *Local Science vs. Global Science: Approaches to Indigenous Knowledge in International Development*. New York: Bergahn Books.
- Zeppel, Heather (2006). *Indigenous Ecotourism: Sustainable Development and Management*. London: CABI.

Tourist Map of Sabah, from Malaysian Tourism Association, 2018



Discover
The Wonders of
SABAH, BORNEO

© SabahTravelGuide.com

Approximate Ethnic Populations in Sabah (based on 2010 Census)

Group	Population	% Sabah	Notes
Kadazan-Dusun	684,000	18%	-Hill communities -Indigenous, Bumiputra -Largely Christian, also Animist -Two major groups, 40 sub-groups. Kadazan more urban, developed; Dusun are more rural, poorer
Murut	114,000	3%	-Hill communities, many sub-groups -Indigenous, Bumiputra
Bajau	530,000	14%	-Coastal communities, seafaring -Mostly Muslim, connected to Sulu (Philippines) -Eastern & Western Bajau, Western known for horse-riding
Orang Ulu / Other	760,000	20%	-27 small, ethnically diverse indigenous communities -Christian and Animist
Chinese	340,000	9%	-Largely urban, migrants, Buddhist
Malay	228,000	6%	-Coastal -Bumiputra, not indigenous
Non-Citizens	1,000,000	28%	-Largely migrants / descendants from Filipino Moros
Sabah Total	3,800,000		-Sabah is majority Muslim (65%)