

Prof. Andrea Pham Office: 343 Pugh Hall Tel: (352) 392-7084, <a href="mailto:apham@ufl.edu">apham@ufl.edu</a>	Class: M, W, F, 7 <sup>th</sup> 1:55pm – 2:45pm, zoom and TUR <b>2346</b> Virtual office hours: M, W, 5 <sup>th</sup> period 11:45- 12:35 or by appointment.
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**Zoom link for class:** Join URL: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/94996928251> (no passcode required)  
Meeting ID 949 9692 8251

**Virtual (zoom) Office Hours:** <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93497481211> (no passcode required)  
Meeting ID 934 9748 1211

This course is a hybrid, GenEd (H and N) three-credit class. **The face-to-face section meets M and W in classroom, and Fridays meets online via zoom.** All students, regardless of face-to-face or online, need to sign in zoom for every single class.

*In the first week, Jan 11-15, all sections will meet online only.*

Virtual office hours are on M, W, period 5 or by appointment (send me an email message about your availabilities).

### Course description

This course is a general introduction to the Vietnamese culture focusing on its geography, language, arts, history, literature, religion, food, family structure, and people. All readings are in English.

The course closely examines how modern Vietnamese society and its culture were formed over the course of its history. Through discussing important historical, geographical, and social and political elements such as trading patterns, missionary activities, and wars, students will identify traits Vietnamese people share with other communities of wet-rice growers in Southeast Asia. Students will be able to describe how, under the strong influence of China, Vietnam has been integrated into the cultural system of Eastern Asia, including Japan and Korea, yet still retains its own characteristics. Students will also be able to illustrate how modern Vietnamese society embraces Western culture through trading, Catholicism and colonization.

**Prerequisites:** any Asia-related course with the following prefixes: ASH, CHI, CHT, JPN, JPT, REL, VTN. Please contact the instructor for any questions about prerequisites. Lectures and readings are in English. No knowledge of Vietnamese is required.

You can always email me with any questions, concerns or comments: [apham@ufl.edu](mailto:apham@ufl.edu) or directly on Canvas. Please check the course Canvas page daily.

### Required texts:

*McLeod, Mark W. & Nguyễn Thị Diệu. 2001. Culture and Customs of Vietnam. Westport: Greenwood Press. ISBN 0-313-30485-8*

Other readings will be posted on Canvas on e-learning, at least one week before class discussions. Individual presentations, photos, video clips, articles, etc. will be used to illustrate the contents and stimulate discussions.

## Evaluations

Reflective essays (5% x 4)	20%	80 pts
Short written quizzes on readings (5% x 5)	25%	100 pts
Class discussions	15%	60 pts
Group presentation	15%	60 pts
Term paper on a pre-approved topic (Abstract and References 5%, paper 20%)	25%	100 pts
<i>Total</i>	100%	400 pts

<b>Weekly schedule</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 11-15/1	<b>Geography and the people</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 1, 1-14	
Week 2 20-22/1	<b>Geography and the people (cont.)</b> <b>History</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> chapter 2, 15-42	<b>18/1 Martin Luther King</b> <b>Homework 1</b>
Week 3 25-29/1	<b>History (cont.)</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> chapter 2, 15-42	
Week 4 1-5/2	<b>History (cont.)</b>	<i>Duiker:</i> Chapter 2, 15-29, <i>Tran &amp; Reid 2006</i>	<b>Quiz 1</b>
Weeks 5 8-12/2	<b>Language and the writing system</b>	<i>Pham (ms)</i> Marr 1981	
Week 6 15-19/2	<b>Language and the writing system (cont.)</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> chapter 1 9-12	<b>Homework 2</b>
Weeks 7 22-26/2	<b>Religions and Beliefs</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 3, 43-63  <i>Duiker:</i> Chapter 7, 167-169	<b>Feb 25 (R) Break Day</b>  <b>Quiz 2</b>
Week 8 1-5/3	<b>Family structure and gender issues</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 7, 64-152  <i>Pham 2002, Marr 190-206</i>	<b>Homework 3</b>

Week 9 8-12/3	<b>Literature</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 4, 65-93	<b>Quiz 3</b>
Week 10 15-19/3	<b>Literature (cont.)</b>		<b>Homework 4</b>
Week 11 22-26/3	<b>Arts and architecture</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 5, 95-116	<b>Mar 24 (W) Break Day</b>
Weeks 12 29/3-2/4	<b>Performing arts</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 9, 169-182	<b>Quiz 4</b>
Week 13 5-9/4	<b>Food culture</b>	<i>McLeod &amp; Nguyen:</i> Chapter 6, 117-133	<b>Quiz 5</b>
Week 14 12-16/4	<b>Festivals and leisure activities</b>	Chapter 8, 155-168	
Week 15 19-21/4	<b>Group presentation</b>		<b>Term paper due</b>

**General note:** Any component of this syllabus may be *modified* during the semester to accommodate pedagogical needs and student progress.

***Additional and recommended readings:***

Balaban, John and Nguyen Qui Duc. 1996. *Vietnam – a Traveler’s Literary Companion*. Balaban and Nguyen (eds.). San Francisco: Whereabouts Press.

Duiker, William J. 1995. *Vietnam: Revolution in Transition*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Boulder: Westview Press. ISBN 0-8133-8589-X

Jamieson, Neil L. 1993. *Understanding Vietnam*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 0-520-08048-3.

Marr, David G. 1981. *Vietnamese tradition on trial, 1920-1945*. University of California Press.

Pham, Andrea Hoa. 2020. “Poetry Translation from a Tonal Language (Vietnamese) to a Non-tonal Language (English)”, *Delos: A Journal of Translation and World Literature*, Vol. 35:2, pp. 128-140. University of Florida Press.

Phạm, Andrea Hoa. 2002. [Gender in addressing and self-reference in Vietnamese](#), in M. Hellinger and H. Bussman (eds) *Gender Across Languages*, 281-312, Vol 2, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Pham, Andrea Hoa & Pham, Andrew Anh. 2020. “[Sociolinguistic variation in attitudes to pronoun use among couples in southern Vietnam – a statistical analysis](#)”. In Enfield, N., Sidnell, J., & Zuckerman, C. (eds.) *The Anthropology of Language in Mainland Southeast Asia*. Hawaii: Journal of Southeast Asian Linguistic Society, pp. 111-121.

Pham, Andrea Hoa (ms). Introduction to the Vietnamese language and its writing systems.

Nguyen The Anh. 1989. Vietnam. In *Southeast Asia Languages and Literatures – A select guide*. Patricia Herbert and Anthony Milner (eds.), pp. 77-98. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Taylor, Keith. 2013. *A History of the Vietnamese*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Tran and Reid 2006. Introduction: the construction of Vietnamese historical identity, in *Vietnam – Borderless History*, 3-22.

## Attendance policy and email etiquette

Absences due to illness or emergency are excused only if paper documentation is presented; emails will not suffice. You are allowed two unexcused absences; each unexcused absence will cost 3% from your 20% class discussion grade (12 pts). Five unexcused absences will result in the loss of ALL your attendance/class discussion grade (80 pts). Repeated tardiness will also reduce your grade.

You need to do the assigned reading prior to every class and are encouraged to bring up some point from the readings for class/group discussions, raise meaningful questions, or comment on others'. **A grade** in this category requires the student to take part very often or in **every week** class/group discussions, with meaningful comments or questions; **B grade** requires to be active in class/group discussions in most topics, and evidence of doing the assigned readings. **C grade and below** is for those who barely or never take part in class or group discussions, but at least to be in class.

Religious holiday and severe weather conditions are excused. “A student should inform the faculty member of the religious observances of his or her faith that will conflict with class attendance, with tests or examinations, or with other class activities prior to the class or occurrence of that test or activity”.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

## Class conduct:

*“HyFlex/in-person students are required to abide by UF guidelines posted at <https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/forward-faculty-staff/forward-faculty-staff-health/>. When in class, students are required to wear a face mask and to practice social distancing at all times. They are also required to follow the indicated classroom seating arrangements. At the end of each class, in-person students are required to sanitize classroom objects they come into physical contact with. In-person students are expected to bring a laptop computer (or comparable device) to class so that they can join the zoom class session for discussion and group work. Food and drink are not permitted. Use of electronics must be limited to class-related activities.”*

Students are expected to show respect to differences in opinions, values or cultures. Everyone should have equal opportunities to express opinions, experiences, and ideas. Justify any point you make.

Emailing is the easiest way to reach me. Let's follow the Vietnamese culture practice: an address term is needed. 'Cô Phạm' if you wish (*Cô* is used to address a female teacher).

Please do not expect an immediate reply if you send an email during the weekend, unless it is something urgent.

**REFLECTIVE ESSAYS (20%)** take home. During the semester write 4 short commentaries or overview on selected assigned readings to show your insights. Late submissions will NOT be accepted.

**QUIZZES (25%)** in class. Quizzes are short answers, based on assigned readings, slide presentations, and class discussions.

**CLASS DISCUSSIONS (15%)** Every three students form a group for in-class discussions (and for group presentations). Each group will be assigned two topics, the group-led discussion is about 10 minutes for each topic. The group members work together ahead of time to summarize key points and prepare some questions. In class, the group leads the discussions, elaborates important/interesting points, raises questions, or comments on issues from the readings, etc. This activity prepares students to work on their presentations at the end of the course.

**PRESENTATION (15%)** The topic can be anything from the readings. The 10-minute presentation should further the understanding of the topic. Research and understand the topic thoroughly and present accurate information about facts/events/people. **One week** before your presentation, submit by email **the abstract**, *including the bibliography*.

When they are ready, the group can present their topic any time during the course of the semester when it is ready.

**TERM PAPER (Abstract 5% + paper 20%)** Each student is expected to submit a 1,100 to 1,500-word paper. When you know your topic and have a detailed outline for the paper, submit by email **the abstract**, *including the bibliography*. You may develop your group presentation into a paper or might select another topic you would like to work on. In your term paper, *use at least two to three class sources* (published sources from the readings, screenings, and lectures). Limited use of non-referred online sources is allowed when publications on the issues are not available.

You can submit your paper *during the term*, two to three weeks after your presentation. *The latest date to submit the paper is by 2pm, April 21.*

**Make-up policy:** No late or make-up work will be accepted unless you present a valid, documented excuse.

### **Grading policy**

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## Grading scale & GPA equivalents

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E, I, NG, S-U, WF
93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	0-59
4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0

**Note:** A grade of C– is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit.

A grade of C (2.0) or better is required to earn an S. Conversely, a grade of C- or below will earn a grade of U.

FAQs for Minus Grades:

<https://student.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

**Class conduct:** Students are expected to show respect for everyone in class regardless of differences in opinions, values, and culture. Students should give one another equal opportunity to express opinions, experiences, and ideas. All students should be supportive of a cooperative learning environment. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during class.

**Academic Honesty:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

**Students with disabilities** There is no requirement for a student to disclose his or her disability. However, students requesting classroom accommodations must register with the Dean of Students Office and provide documentation to verify the disability: 202 Peabody Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-5055, (Voice) 352-392-1261, (TDD) 352-392-3008.

<http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalogarchive/0405catalog/student-information/dos.html>

**Counseling & Mental Health Resources:** Students looking to maintain and improve wellness, or in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575) at 3190 Radio Road, Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Online services are also available.

“If your friend passes out from substance use or overdose, call 911. Medical Amnesty policy will not punish you or the student in crisis to ensure help is sought for substance-related emergencies.”

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/resources/>

## UF Policy on Online Course Evaluations:

“Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.”