

ASEAN Law and Policy

Seminar 1

In preparing for Seminar 1, please make a short list of:

- Why you are interested in ASEAN and what you hope to get out of this class
- What issues and concepts intrigue you or you think important from the reading materials (below)
- We shall then discuss them and link them to the lesson outcomes listed in I–III.

I. ASEAN, the Political Creature (1967–2007)

- The history and evolution of ASEAN
- The *raison d'être* of ASEAN; its character and purposes
- The *modus operandi* of ASEAN and the ASEAN Way – norms, values, and principles (diplomatic/political/non-legalistic), Westphalian mindset, absolute sovereignty
- ASEAN Centrality
- The institutions of ASEAN and their development

II. Please read the following (circa 70pp):

- History of ASEAN <http://asean.org/asean/about-asean/history>
- Shaun Narine, Forty years of ASEAN: A Historical Review, 21(4) Pacific Review (2008) 411-29.
- Helen E. S. Nesadurai, ASEAN and regional governance after the Cold War: from regional order to regional community? 22(1) Pacific Review (2009) 91-118 (**only pp. 91-99**)
- Barry Desker, Is ASEAN a Community?, RSIS Commentary No.145, 2 August 2017
- 4 news articles – ASEAN Centrality 1 & 2; ASEAN Community-building 1 & 2.
- [Optional further reading] Walter Woon, The ASEAN Charter: A Commentary (Singapore: NUS Press, 2016), pp. 1-38.

III. Go through the following ASEAN instruments to get a sense of the regional commitments:

- 1967 ASEAN Declaration [Bangkok Declaration (1967)]
- Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (1976)
- 1976 Declaration of ASEAN Concord I [Bali Concord I (1976)]
- 1976 Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat
- 2003 Declaration of ASEAN Concord II [Bali Concord II (2003)]