

BUSN3065

EXPERIENCE IN ASIA PROJECT

Information about the study tour
27 November – 12 December 2004

1. Introduction

The following information is ***still provisional***, but sufficient to give you an impression of what is going to happen.

The course outline explains that the focus of the course will be on Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, and that the course will range over the following themes related to the organisation of business and the business environment in Asia.

- **Agro-industry**
specifically rubber and palm oil in Sumatra and Malaysia
- **Business finance**
specifically stock markets in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, foreign financial firms
- **Transport and logistics**
specifically Singapore and Klang ports and Straits of Malacca shipping
- **Industrial estates**
specifically Batam and Penang
- **Assembling companies and their supplier firms**
specifically electronics and automotive industries in Batam and Penang, and the Proton automotive industry
- **Institutions in business**
specifically chambers of commerce, financial intermediaries, government agencies facilitating e.g. foreign trade, industry-specific education, and competition laws
- **Development of a high-tech industry**
specifically electronics and IT in Penang and Cyberjaya
- **Regional economic integration and trade policies**
specifically bilateral trade and investment relations Singapore-Indonesia-Malaysia, AFTA and 'growth triangles' within ASEAN
- **Foreign investment**
specifically foreign firms in Singapore, Batam, North Sumatra, Penang and Selangor.

In the weekly sessions during the semester, the lecturer and guest speakers will introduce students to the

- business environment in the three countries;
- opportunities to do research during the study tour, and how to prepare;
- do's and don'ts of travel to and in these countries.

Students will:

- select a topic for research, ideally related to the above themes;
- start researching these topics on the basis of material available in or through the ANU library and the Australian National Library;
- make PowerPoint assisted presentations to their peers on these topics.

2. Travel schedule

The study tour will take place after the examination period has finished. Details of the study tour still have to be finalised, but this is the **draft schedule**:

Saturday	27 November	Singapore arrival, hotel check-in
Sunday	28 November	Singapore orientation assignment
Monday	29 November	Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore • PSA Singapore (port terminal operator) Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Chamber of Commerce, Singapore • Sembcorp Parks Management Pte Ltd or the Ministry of Trade and Industry (discussion of the draft 'Competition Bill') • Meet students and staff at the Business School of the National University of Singapore End of the day debriefing
Tuesday	30 November	Hotel check-out Morning visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore Stock Exchange Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 foreign financial companies Evening ferry to Batam Island (Indonesia) Batam hotel check-in End of the day debriefing
Wednesday	1 December	Morning visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Batam Industrial Development Authority • Batamindo industrial estate Afternoon visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 companies on Batamindo estate Batam orientation assignment End of the day debriefing
Thursday	2 December	Hotel check-out Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 companies in Batu Merah and Batu Ampar Afternoon flight to Medan via Palembang <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merpati MZ225 15:15-17:35 Medan hotel check-in
Friday	3 December	Morning visits in Deli Serdang: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTP Nusantara III, rubber plantation • PTP Nusantara III, oil palm plantation • PTP Nusantara III, palm oil factory, Deli Serdang Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PT London Sumatra Indonesia Tbk, palm oil factory, Medan • Indonesia Oil Palm Business Association, Medan • Indonesian Oleofood Industry Association, Medan End of the day debriefing
Saturday	4 December	Medan orientation assignment Hotel check-out
Sunday	5 December	Hotel check-out Morning ferry to Penang Hotel check-in Penang orientation exercise
Monday	6 December	Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penang Development Corporation • Penang Skills Development Centre Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seberang Jaya Industrial Park • Acer Technologies Sdn Bhd • Meet students and staff at the School of Management at Universiti Sains Malaysia End of the day debriefing

Tuesday	7 December	Hotel check-out Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 IT companies Afternoon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • time off or conduct research projects Night train to Kuala Lumpur: 21:30 (d) – 7:11 (a)
Wednesday	8 December	KL hotel check-in Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyberjaya, Malaysia's Silicon Valley • Malaysia External Trade Development Corp. Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor • Malaysia Australia Business Council • ANU Alumni Organisation End of the day debriefing
Thursday	9 December	Morning visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HICOM Industrial Estate • Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Bhd (PROTON) • A Proton supplier SME Afternoon visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bursa Malaysia • ASEAN National Secretariat, Malaysia End of the day debriefing
Friday	10 December	Morning visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Klang Authority • Northport Malaysia Bhd (port terminal operator) Afternoon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find internet café to • prepare Saturday presentations • finalise project reports
Saturday	11 December	Morning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final project presentations at the • Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya • Submission of project reports Afternoon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore Kuala Lumpur
Sunday	12 December	Morning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • course debriefing at hotel Hotel check-out Afternoon: Goodbye and leave Kuala Lumpur, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take evening train to Singapore • take evening train to Thailand for a holiday in Pattani, Patthaya, Phuket or Bangkok • fly back to Medan for a holiday along Lake Samosir or to go surfing on Nias island • fly to Padang to go surfing on the Mentawai islands

3. Study tour costs

The following is only an **indicative overview** of the costs. The details are still under negotiation with airlines, local travel agents and hotels.

Travel		A\$
Canberra-Singapore vv		1,650
Ferry Singapore-Batam	S\$50	40
Flight Batam-Medan	Rp795.800	119
Ferry Medan-Penang	M\$80	29
Train Penang-Kuala Lumpur	M\$67	24
Train Kuala Lumpur-Singapore	M\$68	25

Visa for Indonesia	60
14 nights accommodation @ \$50	700
Meals 15 days @ \$30	450
Local travel (taxi, bus, metro)	75
Sundries (bus charter, local guides, presents, contingency, etc)	500
Total	3,672

(Exchange rates 1A\$ = 2.75 M\$ = 1.25 S\$ = 6700 Rp)

Most of these cost items are related to the group activities during the study tour and will not be paid individually by students in the course, but by the lecturer from funds collected from students before departure.

Students in the course will be asked to pay a non-refundable A\$200 deposit before 31 August. By then they should know whether they intend to complete the course with the study tour in November-December or not. The deposit will go towards the cost of group activities during the study tour.

The total cost of the study tour for an individual student may depend on whether they need to purchase visa for the three countries (Australian passport holders only need to purchase a visa for Indonesia) and where they choose to have their meals.

If students need to make their own airline bookings (for instance because they require a different travel schedule to and/or from Singapore), the total cost may also depend on the airline they will use to fly to Singapore.

The details of the travel schedule and the costs will be discussed during the weekly sessions at the beginning of the semester. For example, depending on the travel requirements of individual students, it may be better to allow students to make individual flight bookings, rather than a group booking.

Travel insurance and travel advice

The ANU's Travel Insurance policy with ACE Asia Pacific Ltd covers students on field work (see: http://info.anu.edu.au/fbs/Business_Functions/Insurance_Office/Travel_Insurance.asp). Students should consult the details of the policy before departure. To be covered by these insurance policies, it will be necessary to inform the university of the travel schedule and provide the details of the students involved. Students may take out an additional travel insurance policy if the ANU's insurance policy does not meet their requirements. During the semester, students will also be asked to submit a form that will ask them for their medical and some personal details. This information will be used with full confidentiality. It is the responsibility of students to seek medical advice and disclose any existing illness or disability to the ANU's insurance company prior to travel.

During the semester, students will be informed about the travel requirements (including passport validity, visa, vaccinations, travel health and clothing) and the possible risks of travel to and in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. Travel arrangements will be subject to the travel warnings issued by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (<http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/>). Students are encouraged to seek further advice about health and vaccinations, for instance from the ANU Health Service (<http://www.anu.edu.au/health/index.php>) or from TMVC (<http://www.tmvc-group.com/canberra.html>)

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