

GEOG 425: Southeast Asia Urban Field Studies
Wed. May 15-28 2019
Singapore and Malaysia

Instructor:

Dr. Sarah Moser

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Cell phone # : 514-266-9908

Office: 413 Burnside Hall (before the course starts)

Office Hours: in the field we will be in constant contact!

Course meeting times: we will meet for full and partial days in various field sites in Singapore and Malaysia for the duration of the course (May 15-28, 2019).

Course context and description

Singapore and Malaysia have experienced massive and unprecedented urban change in recent decades, a large portion of which has been state-driven. As a result of both geographical fortune and state policies, Singapore has become a ‘global city’ that functions as a command and control center for global finance and is an important Asian node for global flows of capital, goods, services, and people.

Malaysia has similar global aspirations, and while it has not achieved Singapore’s economic success, it has become a hub for education, Islamic banking, and various service industries. Malaysia is currently trying to leverage its position next to Singapore through a massive Special Economic Zone that is twice Singapore’s size. Since the 1990s, the Malaysian state has dramatically transformed the built environment as part of its national economic strategy, to re-brand the country for foreign investors, and as part of on-going nation-building. Malaysia was also a pioneer in the current wave of new master-planned cities, and other countries in Southeast Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Africa have looked to Malaysia’s new cities, particularly Putrajaya, as a model for a successful, progressive ‘Islamic’ city built from scratch.

Singapore and Malaysia are multi-cultural, multi-religious, and multi-lingual countries, with ethnic Malays, Chinese, Indians, and others from various parts of Asia. Over the years, both states have crafted various policies intended to include or marginalize minority groups, many of which are manifested in the built environment. Singapore is majority Chinese (80%), while Malaysia is majority Malay Muslim (55%). The tensions, collaborations, interplay, and competitiveness between the countries are fascinating to observe and play out in the built environment in various ways.

This course allows students to see some of the urban changes taking place in this dynamic region up close, while providing the opportunity to connect recent scholarship with field observations. We will explore various current themes in urban studies and urban geography including globalization, the transnational circulation of urban policies, interpretations of culture and heritage / new built heritage, gentrification, migrant labour, public housing, creative clusters, and new cities as national economic strategies. Singapore and Malaysia are ideal countries from which to study these topics as they are safe, the pace of urban change is startlingly fast, both states prioritize city-centric economic strategies, and students will have a seasoned guide! I have traveled, worked, and studied in Singapore and Malaysia for around 20 years and have lots of connections in the region who can provide expertise on various topics.

This course introduces students to human geography fieldwork in urban settings in Southeast Asia. Using Singapore and several cities in Malaysia as our laboratory, we will explore current issues in social and cultural geography, urban geography, and planning.

We will focus on understanding the urban environment through field visits, active observation, and field journaling. We will also look at various techniques: interviews, mapping, GIS, and photography. Our class time will be spent in the field, learning about urban change and how it is intertwined with politics, economic forces, interpretations of culture and heritage, and learning how to put some qualitative field techniques into practice in the context of urban Southeast Asia.

*GEOG 425 fulfills the field course requirement for Geography majors and is open to both Urban Studies majors and minors. Prerequisites include GEOG 217 and GEOG 325. Priority will be given to students who need a field studies course to graduate.

Course Goals

- To expand students' general (geographic) knowledge, particularly geographies of urban Southeast Asia.
- To gain skills and confidence in the use of geographic field methods, such as observation, ethnographies, mapping, and interviewing.
- To encourage students to become independent researchers.
- To appreciate the complex economic, social, political, and cultural processes that influence urban change in Singapore and Malaysia.
- To appreciate how knowledge is generated in human geography.
- To understand how to devise a research question, select appropriate methods to answer that question, and to understand the limitations of each method, particularly in the context of Southeast Asia.
- To develop team-working, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.

Texts

You must purchase a notebook for use as your field journal. A spiral-bound, plain paper notebook of A5 or similar size is the most appropriate. You'll need space to sketch maps as well as write notes. All required readings will be in the course reader.

Assessment

1) Participation	5%	
2) Ethnography paper	20%	Due: June 14, 2019 (MyCourses)
3) Singapore oral history	20%	Due: June 14, 2019 (MyCourses)
4) Field journal, documenting fieldwork tasks	25%	Due: final day of class
5) Reflection essay: Fieldwork challenges and solutions	10%	Due: June 14, 2019 (MyCourses)

6) Presentation summary of readings

20%

In class

1) Participation

All activities are mandatory, students will be assessed on the quality of participation, level of engagement, decorum, and sensitivity to cultural context.

2) Ethnography and positionality paper

Due: June 14, upload to MyCourses

Word limit: 2,000 words (approx. 7-8 pages)

Students will conduct several hours of ethnographic research in an urban setting in Singapore of their choosing. Students working in pairs must agree on a location, which could include a gathering place for migrant workers, a tourist site, an alternative arts venue, and so on (please confirm location with me first). These observations will be written up in an ethnography. (see separate assignment sheet)

3) Singapore Oral History paper

Due: June 14, upload to MyCourses

Word limit: 1,000 words (approx. 4 pages)

Each student will conduct an interview with a Singaporean to understand how the city has changed in their lives and how these changes have impacted them. A summary of the interviewee's comments will be written up in a short article. (see separate assignment sheet)

4) Field Journal

Due: Final day of class

The field journal is your record of thoughts, sketches, and questions. You must use it to respond to the specific tasks I assign for each excursion, as well as for additional thoughts and ideas that you come up with during the excursions.

Your field journal must be legible. However, do not attempt to make it a polished piece of work! Notes rather than complete sentences are fine. Half-finished ideas, rough sketches, musings and questions that you pose but do not answer fully are all part of the fieldwork process, and your journal is the place for them.

5) Reflection essay: Fieldwork challenges and solutions

Due: June 14, upload to MyCourses

This paper (5-6 pages) is worth 10% of your grade and focuses on the various methods we have learned for conducting urban field studies, the challenges of doing research in urban Southeast Asia, some solutions and workarounds to challenges, and strengths and limitations of each approach.

6) Presentation summary of readings

Due: In class (there will be a sign-up sheet in advance)

As this course will keep students busy and engaged in the field, there will not be a lot of time for reading. At the same time, it is critical to have a grasp of some of the key urban studies and Southeast Asian urban geography scholarship in order to carry out fieldwork tasks and deepen the fieldwork experience. Each day, one student will take a turn presenting 1-2 readings to the rest of the class and leading a discussion about them and how they connect to what we will visit. 45 minutes of each day will be allocated to these presentation and discussion sessions. Students will be assessed on their level of preparation, how well they have grasped and presented the ideas, their ability to critically engage with the articles, and their ability to facilitate discussion.

Day-to-day info

We will spend all day or a portion of each day in the field. If there is a monsoon, outdoor activities will be postponed until it passes. You must be appropriately dressed, including comfortable footwear. Dress for constant 32C weather – Singapore and Malaysia are close to the equator so it is hot and humid all the time. In Singapore, summer clothing is acceptable (although appropriate clothes for guided tours and interactions with professors is necessary – no beach wear). In Malaysia, wear loose pants or a skirt and cover shoulders. In Singapore you will need to purchase an MRT (metro) pass at an MRT station to get around the city. The (non-refundable) deposit for the card is around \$7 and you will spend around \$50 on MRT and bus rides throughout the week in Singapore, including the bus fare to get to Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Costs

The cost of registering for the course is **\$1,150**, which includes all accommodation, entrance fees, and most ground transportation (students will need to pay for their own ‘Ezlink’ / MRT card in Singapore, which is a pay-as-you-go system, with average city bus and MRT rides costing .75 to about \$2). Students must purchase their own round trip flights to Singapore (I arranged this so everyone has the flexibility to fly from wherever they want, rather than to and from Montreal as a group). Meals are not included. We will eat in hawker centers, food courts, and inexpensive restaurants: breakfasts will cost \$2-5, lunches and dinners \$4-10.

- Flight (round trip Montreal-Singapore): ~**\$1,200** (prices can vary from **\$850** if purchased early to **\$1,400+**)
- Accommodation for 6 nights in Singapore: **\$310** (air con dorms at the National University of Singapore)
- Accommodation for 8 nights in Malaysia: **\$328** (hotel room - shared with 2 students)
- Ground transportation costs: **\$250**
- Entrance fees: **\$60**
- Entry visas: **\$0** (Entry into Singapore and Malaysia are free for Canadian and American citizens and visas are given on arrival – students with other passports need to check the visa requirements)
- **+\$218** for other fees that cover the costs of the trip

Estimated total: ~**\$2,300**

Team Formation

You will form groups of 4 for the purposes of taking field trips together and mutual support. Teams will be formed during the first class.

Safety and decorum

Safety is our priority at all times and it is our shared responsibility to minimize any safety hazards. Since Singapore and Malaysia are two very different cultural contexts, students need to be sensitive to each and respectful of residents, an important component of conducting field research. Students should never be alone in the field and we must stay in communication about schedules and activities.

Singapore and Malaysia are generally safer than any American city. Drugs, drug crimes, and violence are extremely rare and guns are completely forbidden. Do not take any risks to collect data, whether during class time or for your own projects. I will discuss specific safety related to both Singapore and Malaysia in a pre-departure meeting. In particular:

- ALWAYS work with a partner or in your team when in the field.
- If asked to leave by a business owner, do so immediately and without protest.
- The sun, heat, and mosquitoes are the key safety issues in Singapore and Malaysia. We will avoid the sun during peak hours and will take cool down breaks in air-conditioning at various points throughout the day. There is no malaria in Singapore or Malaysia, although there are sporadic outbreaks of dengue (also a mosquito-born illness).
- Someone in each team must carry a mobile phone when in the field (you can buy a SIM card in Singapore). We will communicate through a WhatsApp group so students must download WhatsApp (free). My phone number is (514)266-9908.

Late Submission of Assignments

Students can make a formal request to the professor for special consideration for an extension to an assignment due date with one of the following documents in hand:

- A Medical Doctor's note which specifically states that you were unable to hand in an assignment by the due date because of a medical emergency, or
- A bereavement notice from a newspaper or other legitimate documentation in the case of a family or close friend's death.

In the case of a group assignment, the request should be made by the affected student.

Ten percent will be deducted for every 24-hour period a piece of assessment is late. The first 24-hour period starts at the time the piece was due (e.g. if you submit something at 5.30pm when it was due at 10am, that equates to a 10% deduction).

Important Notes

- As the instructor of this course I endeavor to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and/or the Office for Students with Disabilities, 514-398-6009.
- End-of-course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury, the online course evaluation system. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.
- In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
- McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).

Class Schedule:

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
***Tuesday, May 14: check into accommodation at UTown Residences, NUS (National University of Singapore)				
Wednesday, May 15	Assemble at NUS student residences, Singapore	heritage / new built heritage city branding -Ethics, positionality, doing research in Asia / Singapore -Identifying a research problem -Research design -Positionality	Excursion 1: *breakfast at NUS canteen *1 hour class at NUS : discuss readings -Haw Par Villa -Vivocity / lunch at Food Republic -'public space' in a mall (Vivocity roof play area / wading pond) -Sentosa:	Phua, V. and Miller, J. W. (2014). Gazing at Haw Par Villa: Cultural Tourism in Singapore. <i>Shima: The International Journal of Research into Island Cultures</i> 8(2): 73-88. Kong, L. (2012). Ambitions of a global city: arts, culture and creative economy in 'Post-Crisis' Singapore. <i>International Journal of Cultural Policy</i> 18(3): 279-294.
Thursday, May 16	Assemble at NUS student residences, Singapore	Neoliberalism, deregulation Global banking hub	Excursion 2: -Singapore Urban Redevelopment Authority -Ann Siang Hill Park, Telok Ayer Street, Thian Hock Keng Buddhist Temple -financial district + new financial district under construction being built on reclaimed land *lunch in the basement of Peninsula Plaza, gathering place for migrant workers from Myanmar *Padang, colonial district *National Museum -Singapore River -6:30 dinner at Lau Pa Sat (also called Telok Ayer Market: satay on Boon Tat Street near MRT stops: Raffles Place, Downtown, Telok Ayer)	Shatkin, G. (2014). Reinterpreting the meaning of the 'Singapore Model': state capitalism and urban planning. <i>International Journal of Urban and Regional Research</i> , 38(1), 116-137. Teo, S. (2014). Political tool or quality experience? Urban livability and the Singaporean state's global city aspirations. <i>Urban Geography</i> , 35(6), 916-937.
Friday, May 17		creative clusters knowledge economy -global knowledge networks	Excursion 3: *local breakfast at Biopolis *45 minute class at Biopolis: discuss readings	Sidhu, R., Yeoh, B., & Chang, S. (2015). A situated analysis of global knowledge networks: capital accumulation strategies of transnationally mobile

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
		<p>-catering to the 'creative class'</p> <p>-making Singapore 'fun'</p> <p>-colonial Muslim architecture</p> <p>*morning tour of Biopolis by Dr. Ajay Mathuru (neuroscientist at Yale-NUS College)</p> <p>*Industrial Light & Magic at one-north</p> <p>*Dr. Imran bin Tajudeen will meet us at Arab Street</p>	<p>-one-north, Biopolis, Fusionopolis</p> <p>-Industrial Light & Magic</p> <p>-Christian mega-mall-church</p> <p>*lunch at ColBar ('Colonial Bar'), an old canteen for the British army run by descendents of the original Hainanese family who started it in the late colonial era.</p> <p>-Arab Street (refurbishment, colonial Arab-style mosque, gentrification)</p> <p>-Bugis (former nightlife district, transvestite entertainment / drag shows – was destroyed in the 1980s and has been revived as a night market)</p>	<p>scientists in Singapore. <i>Higher Education</i>, 69(1), 79-101.</p> <p>Wong, K. W., & Bunnell, T. (2006). 'New economy' discourse and spaces in Singapore: a case study of one-north. <i>Environment and Planning A</i> 38(1): 69-83.</p>
Saturday, May 18	*meet at Tiong Bahru MRT stop ticketing area @ 1pm	<p>public housing in transition heritage gentrification</p> <p>*Dr. Kamalini Ramdas (HDB + makan guide)</p>	<p>Excursion 3: Housing Development Board (HDB)</p> <p>*free morning</p> <p>*45 minute class at Tiong Bahru: discuss readings</p> <p>-Tiong Bharu public housing estates (only remaining Art Deco housing estate, new hipster district), nearby recently-constructed housing estates</p> <p>-Chinatown (dinner)</p>	<p>Wang, J. (2012). The developmental state in the global hegemony of neoliberalism: A new strategy for public housing in Singapore. <i>Cities</i>, 29(6), 369-378.</p> <p>Teo, S. S. (2015). Rethinking graduated citizenship: Contemporary public housing in Singapore. <i>Geoforum</i>, 65, 222-231.</p> <p>Pow, Choon Piew. (January 30, 2015) Do Singapore neighbourhoods risk death by cappuccino? <i>Straits Times</i>. http://www.straitstimes.com/opinion/do-singapore-neighbourhoods-risk-death-by-cappuccino</p>
Sunday, May 19	Meet at Dhobi Ghat MRT stop at noon	<p>global flows of migrant labour migrant enclaves</p>	<p>Excursion 4:</p> <p>Noon:</p> <p>-Orchard Road: visit to Lucky Plaza, a mall that serves as a</p>	<p>Platt, M., Baey, G., Yeoh, B. S., Khoo, C. Y., & Lam, T. (2016). Debt, precarity and gender: male and female temporary labour migrants in Singapore. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i>, 1-18.</p>

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
		<p>*Lunch and look around Lucky Plaza with Crisel, a domestic helper from Philippines</p> <p>*3pm-5pm tour of Payah Lebar / Geylang by Win-Win, an Indonesian domestic helper (meet at Payah Lebar MRT stop)</p> <p>*6pm – dinner + evening tour of Little India by Dr. Diganta Das, (Geography professor at Nanyang Technological University) and Dr. Kanchan Gandhi (professor of planning at New Delhi University)</p>	<p>gathering point for Filipina domestic workers</p> <p>-Payah Lebar / Geylang: a district of east Singapore where Indonesian domestic helpers (maids) gather on Sundays</p> <p>*45 minute class at Lucky Plaza: discuss readings</p> <p>6pm:</p> <p>-Little India: the central gathering place for South Asian male labourors on Sundays</p>	<p>Yeoh, B. S., Platt, M., Khoo, C. Y., Lam, T., & Baey, G. (2016). Indonesian domestic workers and the (un) making of transnational livelihoods and provisional futures. <i>Social & Cultural Geography</i>, 1-20.</p>
Monday, May 20		<p>The rustic side of Singapore: mangrove rehabilitation, vestiges of village life, long term development strategies</p> <p>*tour from 10am onwards by Dr. Tricia Seow of 1) Pulau Ubin (Ubin Island)</p>	<p>Excursion 6:</p> <p>*meet at 7:30 am, walk to Dover MRT – quick breakfast at Tanjong Pagar (Saravan Bhavan)</p> <p>*10:00 am - meet Dr. Seow at Changi Point Bumboat Ferry stand</p> <p>3.30-5 Travel to Marina Barrage, buy drinks on the way</p> <p>5-6.30 pm Relax on roof, look at barrage, have drinks, enjoy evening breeze, debrief</p> <p>6.30 Dinner</p>	<p>Widodo, J. (2016). Sustainability Lesson from Southeast Asia: Singapore Experience. <i>International Journal on Livable Space</i>, 1(1).</p> <p>Hudson, C. (2014). Green is the New Green: Eco-Aesthetics in Singapore. <i>Green Consumption: The Global Rise of Eco-Chic</i>. London: Bloomsbury, 86-99.</p> <p>Please watch these:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m15zd7YLBBw</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=voZDyh86tsA</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaRULQompEk</p>
***Public bus from Singapore to Johor Bahru Tuesday morning (check out of UTown), then Thiru picks us up after immigration in Malaysia				
Tuesday, May 21	Kampung Orang Asli,	Life in the shadows of new urban mega-developments	<p>Excursion 7:</p> <p>-lunch in JB</p> <p>-Puteri Harbour</p>	<p>Rizzo, A., & Glasson, J. (2012) Iskandar Malaysia. <i>Cities</i> 29(6) 417-427.</p>

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
	Johor, Malaysia		-Iskandar Malaysia -indigenous village, boat tour of Danga Bay, sand pile, sand dredgers, indigenous fishing industry -dinner at indigenous seafood restaurant	Rizzo, A. and Khan, S. (2013) Johor Bahru's response to transnational and national influences in the emerging Straits Mega-City Region. <i>Habitat International</i> , 40, 154-162.
Wednesday, May 22	Forest City, Malaysia	New private Chinese master-planned city in Malaysian territorial waters *Forest City in morning *Malay village in afternoon *evening visit to the Forest City construction worker camp	Excursion 8: -tour of Forest City Visitor Gallery -lunch at Malay Village (boat trip into mangrove, depending on the tide) -dinner at stalls in the worker camp	Moser, S. (2018) Forest city, Malaysia, and Chinese expansionism. <i>Urban Geography</i> 39(6): 935-943.
***bus from Forest City to Melaka Thursday morning				
Thursday, May 23	Melaka, Malaysia	UNESCO World Heritage Site Contested heritage	Excursion 8: -Melaka Gateway (Chinese mega-project) and Arab City, (a failed Arab-themed mega-development) -evening: Melaka Night Market!	Goh, D. P. (2014) Between history and heritage: Post-colonialism, globalisation, and the remaking of Malacca, Penang, and Singapore. <i>TRaNS: Trans-Regional and-National Studies of Southeast Asia</i> , 2(01), 79-101. Cartier, C. (1998) Megadevelopment in Malaysia: From heritage landscapes to 'leisurescapes' in Melaka's tourism sector. <i>Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography</i> 19(2): 151-176.
Friday, May 24	Melaka, Malaysia	Cultural politics of a new capital New built heritage Arabization Ethnic / religious tension *tour of Malay night market and Malay food by local Malay undergraduates	Excursion 9: -old Melaka is a UNESCO World Heritage Site (in danger of losing this status) and home to what was once one of the largest ports in the world in pre-colonial times *45 minute class at Heritage Society: discuss readings -Melaka River revitalization / gentrification	

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
		*morning tour of Old Melaka by Bert Tan, President of Malaysia Heritage and History Society		
***bus from Melaka to Kuala Lumpur Saturday morning (2.5 hours), 30 minute train to Putrajaya				
Saturday, May 25	Putrajaya, Malaysia	International migrant labour Life outside / at the fringes of a planned city Social life of a planned city	Excursion 10: *45 minute class at hotel: discuss readings -team visits to a different recreational site in Putrajaya -tour of central Putrajaya: Prime Minister's residence, Putra Mosque, main government buildings -pasar malam (Malay night market)	Moser, S. (2010) Putrajaya: Malaysia's new federal administrative capital. <i>Cities</i> 27(4): 285-297. Moser, S. (2012) Globalization and the construction of identity in Two New Southeast Asian Capitals. <i>Rethinking global urbanism: Comparative Insights from Secondary Cities</i> . 169-89.
Sunday, May 26	Putrajaya, Malaysia	Religious minorities in an Islamic city	Excursion 11: *breakfast at local hawker's center -Putrajaya Hindu temple visit and tour *45 minute class at hotel: discuss readings	Moser, S. (2019) Putrajaya: A pioneering 'Islamic' capital for multicultural Malaysia. In Moser, S. (Ed.) <i>New Master-Planned Cities, Islam, and Identity</i> . New York: Routledge.
***Take commuter train to Kuala Lumpur (30 minutes from Putrajaya)				
Monday, May 27	Kuala Lumpur		Excursion 12: -Kuala Lumpur City Center (KLCC) -Masjid India -Chinese district -Bangsar -The Colloseum -Jalan Bukit Bintang *45 minute class at hotel: discuss readings	Loo, Yat Ming. (2013) The making of 'Chinatown'. <i>Architecture and Urban Form in Kuala Lumpur: Race and Chinese Spaces in a Postcolonial City</i> . Routledge: London and New York. 109-144. Poon, J. P., Pollard, J., Chow, Y. W., & Ewers, M. (2016). The rise of Kuala Lumpur as an Islamic financial frontier. <i>Regional Studies</i> , 1-11.

Date	Location	Topic	Activity	Required Readings
Tuesday, May 28	Kuala Lumpur		Excursion 13: *class dismissed! Location TBA	

Additional readings

Kong, L. and Duruz, Jean. (2016) The taste of retro: Nostalgia, sensory landscapes and cosmopolitanism in Singapore. In Kong, L. and Sinha, Vineeta. *Food, Foodways and Foodscapes: Culture, Community and Consumption in Post-Colonial Singapore*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing.

Accommodation in Singapore and Malaysia for GEOG 425

Dr. Sarah Moser, Department of Geography, McGill University

My cell phone #: +1 514-266-9908 (I use Whatsapp and my phone will be on roaming)

Singapore

Dates: Check in on May 14, check out May 21 (7 nights)

Host address:

UTown Residences at the National University of Singapore
2 College Avenue West, 01 Stephen Riady Centre, Singapore 138607

Host phone #: 65-6601-1611 / [+65 6601 2135](tel:+6566012135)

Host contact name: Ms. Kim Yen TAN (executive, Marketing & Conference, Office of Housing Services, National University of Singapore)

Host email: ohs.conf@nus.edu.sg / ohstky@nus.edu.sg

Website: <http://utown.nus.edu.sg/about-university-town/utown-residence/>

Directions to UTown:

During office hours, the participants can go to the Management Office at RC4 (level 1, at the drop-off point) to collect the access cards and check into their respective rooms.

We will be staying at Residential College 4 (RC4) in University Town (within the Yale-NUS part of UTown).

Getting There:

From Changi Airport to RC4 by Taxi:

The taxi bays are located outside the Arrival Hall. Go on to the Ayer Rajah Expressway (AYE). Exit at NUS - Clementi Road (AYE Exit 9), and get on to Clementi Road, then turn left at NUS Entrance A to Kent Ridge Crescent. Take the first left to University Town and continue on to RC4.

By Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) and Bus:

From Changi Airport MRT station, board the train going in the direction of Joo Koon (West Line). Alight at Buona Vista MRT Station. Take the overhead bridge to cross the road and board bus service 196 at the bus-stop. Alight at University Town bus stop (6 stops away) and walk in.

just ask anyone for directions or help – everyone speaks English and most are happy to help! ☺

Malaysia

Indigenous Village opposite Singapore – Kampung Orang Asli

Dates: Check in on May 21, check out May 22 (1 night)

Host address: various homestays

Host phone #: tba

Host contact name: tba

Host email: tba

Website:

Forest City

Dates: Check in on May 22, check out May 23 (1 night)

Host address: Forest City Phoenix Hotel, 1, Jalan Forest City, Gelang Patah, 81550 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia

Host phone #: +60 7-505 3333

Host contact name: n/a

Host email:

Website: <http://forestcityphoenixhotel.com/>

Melaka (also spelled Malacca)

Dates: Check in on May 23, check out May 25 (2 nights)

Host address:

Discovery Café & Guest House

No. 3, Jalan Bunga Raya

Melaka 75200, Malaysia

Host phone #: +60 12-683 5606

Host contact name: Mr. Tang

Host email: (no email provided)

Website: <http://www.discovery-malacca.com/>

Putrajaya

Dates: check in May 25, check out May 27 (2 nights)

Host address:

The Everly Putrajaya (hotel name)

No. 1 Jalan Alamanda 2, Precint 1

62000 Putrajaya

Host phone #: [+60 3-8892 2929](tel:+60388922929)

Host contact name: (no contact name)

Host email: tep@theeverlygroup.com

Website: <http://putrajaya.theeverlyhotel.com/>

Kuala Lumpur

Dates: check in May 27, check out May 28 (1 night)

Host address:

Orange Pekoe Guesthouse

No. 1-1, Jalan Angsoka, Off Jalan Nagasari, Kuala Lumpur, 50200

Host phone #: +60321102000

Host contact name: (no contact name)

Host email: info@orangepekie.com.my

Website: <http://orangepekie.com.my/index.html>

“Die die must try” – Singlish for tasty foods you must try in Singapore and Malaysia!

- **nasi lemak** (for breakfast) – Malay coconut rice, served with peanuts, spicy sauce, cucumber, little dried anchovies, egg and sometimes chicken
- **popiah** – like a little Chinese burrito (vegetarian)
- **roti prata** – fried flat bread with a curry sauce (sometimes stuffed with cheese = cheese prata)
- **satay** – meat on skewers with peanut dipping sauce

- **char kway teow** – fried thick rice noodles
- **laksa (also called Nyonya laksa)** – rich noodle soup in a thick coconut gravy
- **kaya toast** (for breakfast or snack) – thinly sliced crispy toast with butter wedges and coconut jam
- **ice kacang** – shaved ice dessert
- **idli** – white steamed grain cakes with super yummy sauces
- **chee cheong fun** – steamed rice roll / gigantic noodle roll with sauce (good dim sum-derived snack)
- **sugarcane juice** – pieces of sugarcane put through a ringer – refreshing!
- **bao** – steamed buns often filled with pork, veg, custard, etc (good breakfast or snack)
- **durian** – a spiky fruit – very creamy and famously strong smelling
- **rojak** – a mixed salad with cucumber, pineapple, bean sprouts, tofu, chopped dough fritters in a sweet spicy sauce
- **yong tau foo** – you pick the raw ingredient for your own soup, they cook it
- **roti canai** – like roti prata but way better (good for all meals – found only in Malaysia)