This undergraduate survey explores the social and natural worlds of Southeast Asia, a fascinating region that includes Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. We investigate ecological features, from high species diversity and ancient rain forests to colorful reefs and snow-capped mountains. Our journey takes us through the modern era, from the rise of powerful kingdoms to colonial rule, from decolonization and Cold War struggles to contemporary globalization. We discuss topics facing local populations, such as urbanization and deforestation, that challenge all of us to think critically and creatively about our world and where it is headed.