

Jacob I. Ricks

Curriculum vitae
9 January 2025

School of Social Sciences
Singapore Management University
10 Canning Rise, Level 05
Singapore 179873
Tel. +65 6808 5460
jacobricks@smu.edu.sg
<http://jacobricks.com>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021-now Associate Professor of Political Science, Singapore Management University
2023-2024 Associate Dean (Research), School of Social Sciences
2020-2021 Lee Kong Chian Fellow
- 2022-now Ian R Taylor Fellow, Singapore Management University & Oxford School of Global and Area Studies, Oxford University
Academic Visitor at St. Antony's College, Oxford University
- 2013-2020 Assistant Professor of Political Science, Singapore Management University
2019-2020 Lee Kong Chian Fellow
2015-2016 Della Suantio Fellow

EDUCATION

- 2013 Ph.D. in Political Science, Emory University
2007 M.A. in Political Science, Southeast Asia Concentration, Northern Illinois University
2005 B.A. in Asian Studies & Political Science, Utah State University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2022 Liu, Amy H., and Jacob I. Ricks. *Ethnicity and Politics in Southeast Asia* (Elements in Politics and Society in Southeast Asia). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 Napon Jatustripitak and Jacob I. Ricks. "Age and Ideology: The Emergence of New Political Cleavages in Thailand's 2566 (2023) Election." *Pacific Affairs* 97, no. 1 (March): 151-170.
- 2022 Ricks, Jacob I. "Politically Speaking: Ethnic Language and Audience Opinion in Southeast Asia." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 22, no. 3 (November), 457-479.
- 2022 Ricks, Jacob I. "The Politics of Institutional Reform: Vulnerability and Bureaucratic Independence in Asian Agriculture." *Asian Politics & Policy* 14, no. 3 (July), 351-373.
- 2021 Ricks, Jacob I., and Richard F. Doner. "Getting Institutions Right: Matching Institutional Capacities to Developmental Tasks." *World Development* 139 (March), 105334.
- 2021 Ricks, Jacob I., and Thanapan Laiprakobsup. "Becoming Citizens: Policy Feedback and the Transformation of the Thai Rice Farmer." *Journal of Rural Studies* 81 (January), 139-147.
- 2020 Pretty, Jules, Simon Attwood, Richard Bawden, [and 26 others, including Jacob I. Ricks.] "Assessment of the Growth in Social Groups for Sustainable Agriculture and Land Management." *Global Sustainability* 3, no. e23 (August), 1-16.
- 2020 Ricks, Jacob I. "The Effect of Language on Voter Opinion: Results from a Survey Experiment in Thailand." *Political Behavior* 42, no. 1 (March), 83-104.
- 2019 Ricks, Jacob I. "Thailand's 2019 Vote: The General's Election," *Pacific Affairs* 92, no. 3 (September), 443-457.
- 2019 Ricks, Jacob I. "Proud to be Thai: The Puzzling Absence of Ethnicity-Based Political Cleavages in Northeastern Thailand." *Pacific Affairs*, 92, no. 2 (June), 257-285.
** Shortlisted for 2020 Holland Prize for most outstanding article in *Pacific Affairs* **
- 2018 Ricks, Jacob I. "Agents, Principals, or Something in Between? Bureaucrats and Policy Control in Thailand." *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 18, no. 3 (November), 321-344.
- 2018 Ricks, Jacob I., and Amy H. Liu. "Process Tracing Research Designs: A Practical Guide." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 51, no. 4 (October), 842-846.
- 2018 Ricks, Jacob I. "Politics and the Price of Rice in Thailand: Public Choice, Institutional Change and Rural Subsidies." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 48, no. 3 (June), 395-418.

- 2017 Ricks, Jacob I. "Sector-Specific Development and Policy Vulnerability in the Philippines." *Development and Change* 48, no. 3 (May), 567-589.
- 2016 Punchada Sirivunnabood and Jacob I. Ricks. "Professionals and Soldiers: Measuring Professionalism in the Thai Military." *Pacific Affairs* 89, no. 1 (March), 7-30.
** Shortlisted for 2017 Holland Prize for most outstanding article in *Pacific Affairs* **
- 2016 Ricks, Jacob I. "Building Participatory Organizations for Common Pool Resource Management: Water User Group Promotion in Indonesia." *World Development* 77 (January), 34-47.
- 2015 Ricks, Jacob I. "Pockets of Participation: Bureaucratic Incentives and Participatory Irrigation Management in Thailand." *Water Alternatives* 8, no. 2 (June), 193-214.
- 2012 Ricks, Jacob I., and Sigit S. Arif. "Field Report: Local Successes in Encouraging Participatory Irrigation Management: Policy Lessons from Indonesia." *Journal of International Development* 24, no. 7 (October), 946-949.
- 2012 Liu, Amy H., and Jacob I. Ricks. "Coalitions and Language Politics: Policy Shifts in Southeast Asia." *World Politics* 64, no. 3 (July), 476-506.
- 2008 Ricks, Jacob I. "National Identity and the Geo-Soul: Spiritually Mapping Siam." *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism* 8, no. 1 (April), 120-141.

Editor Reviewed Articles & Book Chapters

- 2024 Ricks, Jacob I. "State Institutions in Northeast Thailand: Lao Ethnic and the Thai Identity." In Amy H. Liu and Joel Sawat Selway (eds.), *State Institutions, Civic Associations, and Identity Demands: Regional Movements in Greater Southeast Asia*, pp. 106-119. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- 2020 Ricks, Jacob I. "Integration despite Exclusion: Thai National Identity among Isan People." *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia*, no. 27 (March).
- 2017 Ricks, Jacob I. "Street-Level Bureaucrats and Irrigation Policy Reform in Southeast Asia" (Praxis: A Review of Policy Practice). *Asian Politics & Policy* 9, no. 2 (April), 310-319.

Book Reviews

- 2021 Ricks, Jacob I. *Fighting for Virtue: Justice and Politics in Thailand*, by Duncan McCargo, in *Pacific Affairs* 94, no. 3 (September), 631-633.

2016 Ricks, Jacob I. *Beyond Oligarchy: Wealth, Power, and Contemporary Indonesian Politics*, eds. Michele Ford and Thomas B. Pepinsky, in *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 47, no. 2 (June), 315-317.

Short Commentaries

- 2023 Ricks, Jacob. “Amy H. Liu and Jacob I. Ricks - *Ethnicity and Politics in Southeast Asia*.” *New Books Network Podcast* (<https://newbooksnetwork.com/ethnicity-and-politics-in-southeast-asia>). September 1.
- 2023 Ricks, Jacob. “Thailand’s Constitution Works as Intended to Frustrate Democratic Outcomes.” *East Asia Forum* (<https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2023/08/05/>). August 5.
- 2023 Ricks, Jacob. “In Thai Politics, Tigers and Crocodiles Abound.” *East Asia Forum* (<https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2023/05/28/>). May 28.
- 2022 Ricks, Jacob. “The Politics of Ethnic Integration in Thailand.” *SSEAC Stories Podcast* (<https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-politics-of-ethnic-integration-in-thailand>). April 28.
- 2021 Ricks, Jacob. “Thailand’s Rice Politics.” *Nordic Asia Podcast* (<https://newbooksnetwork.com/thailands-rice-politics-with-jacob-ricks>). January 20.
- 2019 Ricks, Jacob I. “Thai National Pride in a Comparative Perspective.” *Thai Data Points Blog* (www.thaidatapoints.com), November 27.
- 2019 Ricks, Jacob I. Introduction to “Democracy in Southeast Asia: A Year of Elections.” *Asian Politics & Policy* 11, no. 4 (October), 663-678.
- 2019 Ricks, Jacob I. “The PPRP’s Shock Victory: Public Support for Military Governance in Thailand.” *Thai Data Points Blog* (www.thaidatapoints.com), March 25.
- 2018 Ricks, Jacob I. “Politically Speaking: How Speaking Style Affects Voter Opinion.” *Political Behavior Blog* (www.politicalbehavior.wordpress.com), July 15.
- 2017 Ricks, Jacob I. “Thailand’s Delayed Structural Transformation.” *Thai Data Points Blog* (www.thaidatapoints.com), February 15.
- 2016 Ricks, Jacob I. “The Thai Military, Coups, and the False Hope of Professionalism,” *Asia Pacific Memo*, No. 362.
- 2015 Ricks, Jacob I. “Growing into Inertia,” *Catalyst Asia*, July 7.

2015 Ricks, Jacob I. "Norms and Military Interventions," *Thai Data Points Blog* (www.thaidatapoints.com), February 20.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

2022-2025 Ian R. Taylor Fellow, Singapore Management University and Oxford School of Global and Area Studies, University of Oxford. One term at Oxford per academic year; remainder of appointment at SMU.

2020/21 Lee Kong Chian Fellow, Singapore Management University. (30,000 SGD)

2020 Ricks (2019), "Proud to be Thai," was shortlisted for the 2020 William L. Holland Prize for the most outstanding article published in the preceding volume of *Pacific Affairs*.

2020 Nominee for Excellent Teacher Award, Singapore Management University.

2019/20 Lee Kong Chian Fellow, Singapore Management University. (15,000 SGD)

2017 Punchada and Ricks (2016), "Professionals and Soldiers," was shortlisted for the 2017 William L. Holland Prize for the most outstanding article published in the preceding volume of *Pacific Affairs*.

2016 Young Southeast Asia Fellow, Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG) Fourth Annual Meeting, 3-4 June, University of Michigan.

2016 Most Promising Teacher Award, Singapore Management University.

2015/16 MOE Tier 1 Grant, Singapore Management University, "The Political Appeal of Language: Dialect and Voter Opinion in Thailand." (26,861 SGD)

2015/16 Della Suantio Fellow, Singapore Management University. (15,000 SGD)

2015 Nominee for Most Promising Teacher Award, Singapore Management University.

2013/14 MOE Tier 1 Grant, Singapore Management University, "Unexpected Success: Irrigation Sector Reform in the Philippines." (18,385 SGD)

2012 Emory University Professional Development Support Award for Dissertation Research.

2010/11 Fulbright IIE Grant Award for Indonesia, Fulbright Scholarship Board.

- 2010 Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award. (Declined)
- 2010 Critical Language Scholarship for Indonesian.
- 2009 Social Science Research Council, Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship.
- 2006/07 Foreign Language and Area Studies grant for the study of Indonesian, Northern Illinois University.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

- 2024 “The Bureaucracy and Military in Thai Politics.” Online presentation for Thammasat University, Bangkok. 3 September.
- 2024 “Khon Nai Khon Thai [Who is Thai]? Ethnic Boundary Making and the Thai National Identity.” St. Antony’s College, Oxford University, Oxford UK. 5 March.
- 2023 “Thailand’s 2023 Election: Some Preliminary Thoughts from an Independent Survey,” Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen Thailand. 26 June.
- 2023 “Process-Tracing in Political Science and International Relations: A Practical Guide,” City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. 08 June.
- 2022 “Navigating the Tenure and Promotion Process while Staying True to Yourself,” Beyond Essentialism Workshop, University of the Philippines, Manila. 09 September.
- 2019 “Proud to be Thai: The Puzzling Absence of Ethnicity-Based Political Cleavages in Northeastern Thailand,” Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. 21 February.
- 2018 “Integration and Exclusion: Isan People and the Thai State,” ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore. 5 December.
- 2017 “Tasks of Development: Beyond Technical Answers,” University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand. 30 November.
- 2017 “The Effect of Language on Voter Opinion: Results from a Survey Experiment in Thailand,” National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan. 11 June.
- 2016 “The Political Appeal of Language: Dialect and Voter Opinion in Thailand,” University of Michigan, Southeast Asia Research Group, Ann Arbor, Michigan. 2-4 June.

- 2014 “Agents as Principals: Bureaucracy and Policy Control in Thailand,” Naresuan University, Phitsanulok, Thailand. 17 September.
- 2014 “Agents as Principals: Bureaucracy and Policy Control in Thailand,” Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. 21 July.
- 2014 “Thailand: What’s the End Game?” Deutsche Bank Access Asia Conference, Singapore. 21 May.
- 2012 “Politics of Reform and Bureaucratic Institutions: Irrigation in Southeast Asia,” Thailand Development Research Institute, Bangkok, Thailand. May 29.
- 2012 “Political Science Research Design and Methods: In Principle and Practice,” Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. February 14.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY (2010-present)

- 2024 “Isan: Ethnic Integration through a Peripheral Identity.” Association for Asian Studies in Asia, 9-11 July. Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- 2023 “Boundaries of Thainess: Language, Religion, Phenotype and the Thai Identity.” Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 5-6 October. West Yellowstone, MT.
- 2020 “Becoming Citizens: Policy Feedback and the Transformation of the Thai Rice Farmer” (with Thanapan Laiprakobsup). Western Political Science Association Conference, 8-11 April. Los Angeles, CA. [Conference cancelled for COVID-19]
- 2019 “Integration despite Exclusion: Isan People and the Thai State.” European Association for Southeast Asian Studies Conference, 10-13 September. Berlin.
- 2019 “Integration and Exclusion: Isan People and the Thai State.” Association for Asian Studies in Asia Conference, 1-3 July. Bangkok.
- 2019 “The Politics of Institutional Reform: Vulnerability and Bureaucratic Independence in Asian Agriculture.” BYU Scholars Workshop, 23-24 May. Provo, UT.
- 2019 “Proud to be Thai: The Puzzling Absence of Ethnicity-Based Political Cleavages in Northeastern Thailand.” Western Political Science Association Conference, 18-20 April. San Diego, CA.

- 2018 “The Effect of Language on Political Appeal: Results from a Survey Experiment in Thailand.” Part of a roundtable at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. 30 August – 2 September. Boston, MA.
- 2018 “Delaying Development: Democratization and Structural Change in Thailand.” Southeast Asia Symposium. 22-24 March. Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2017 “Proud to be Thai: The Puzzling Absence of Ethnicity-Based Political Cleavages in Thailand.” 13th International Conference on Thai Studies, 15-18 July. Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 2017 “Proud to be Thai: The Puzzling Absence of Ethnicity-Based Political Cleavages in Thailand.” Western Political Science Association Conference, 12-15 April. Vancouver, Canada.
- 2016 “Democracy, Institutions, and Public Choice: The Politics of Paddy Pledging Prices,” Thailand in Comparative Perspective: Thai Studies Symposium, 26-28 September. Sydney, Australia.
- 2016 “The Political Appeal of Language: Dialect and Voter Opinion in Thailand,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 6-10 April. Chicago, IL.
- 2016 “Delaying Development: The Politics of Rice Price Policies and Agricultural Transformation in Thailand,” Association for Asian Studies Conference, 31 March – 4 April. Seattle, WA.
- 2015 “Introduction: The Ebbs and Flows of Democracy in Southeast Asia,” Panel organizer/Discussant at Association for Asian Studies in Asia Conference, 22-24 June. Taipei, Taiwan.
- 2015 “Agents as Principals: Bureaucracy and Policy Control in Thailand,” BYU Young Scholars Workshop, 4-5 June. Provo, Utah.
- 2014 “Agents as Principals: Bureaucracy and Policy Control in Thailand,” Presented at the APISA 8 Conference, 19-20 September. Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 2014 “Path of Least Resistance: Explaining Institutional Success in the Philippines,” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, 28-31 August. Washington DC, USA.
- 2014 “Professionals and Soldiers: Measuring Professionalism in the Thai Military,” presented at the International Thai Studies Conference, 22-25 April. Sydney, Australia.

- 2013 “Changing the Odds: Politicians, Bureaucrats, and the Politics of Policy Reform,” presented at the New Zealand Political Studies Association Annual Conference, 2-3 December. Christchurch, New Zealand.
- 2013 “Politicians, Bureaucrats, and Institution Building for Participatory Irrigation Management: Policy Reform in Southeast Asia,” presented at MPSA Annual Conference, April 11-14. Chicago, IL.
- 2012 “Participatory Irrigation Management in Thailand: Pitfalls in Policy Implementation,” presented at the Council on Thai Studies, Ohio University, October 26-27. Athens, Ohio.
- 2011 “Politics of Participation: Irrigation Associations in Southeast Asia,” presented at the Fulbright Mid-Year Enrichment Conference for Scholars in Southeast Asia. March 16-20. Bangkok, Thailand. Also presented at AMINEF Fulbright Conference. May 12-15, 2011. Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2010 “Layered Government Responsibility, Participatory Natural Resource Management, and the Development of Irrigation Groups in Thailand and Indonesia,” presented at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 25-28. Philadelphia, PA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Courses (Oxford University & SMU)

Ethnic and National Identity Politics (Oxford University, 2022, 2024, 2025)
The Political Economy of States and Markets (SMU, 2017)

Undergraduate Courses (SMU)

Introduction to Political and Policy Studies (6 sections, 2013-2017)
Introduction to Public Policy (5 sections, 2018-2019)
Politics of Southeast Asia (9 sections, 2015-2022)
Southeast Asia, Past & Present (3 sections, 2020)
Political Economy of Development (2 sections, 2010 & 2015)
The Politics of Water in Asia (3 sections, 2013, 2016, 2021)
World Politics (2021, 2023, 2024)
Politics of Food Security (2016)
SOSS Senior Capstone Seminar (2 sections, 2018 & 2020)

Thesis Reader

2023/25 Franca Haug, MPhil Thesis – Oxford University (supervisor)

2023/24	Keith Chew, PhD Dissertation – University of Texas at Austin (external reader)
2022/23	Bonnie Lao, MPhil Thesis – Oxford University (co-supervisor)
2022	Beh Kok Fong, DBA Dissertation (committee member)
2020/21	Nicholas Chua, Political Science Honors Thesis (co-examiner)
2018/19	Justin Tan Jun Yan, Political Science Honors Thesis (supervisor)
2018/19	Rebecca Liu Jiayu, Political Science Honors Thesis (supervisor)
2016/17	Ho Yu Fong, Political Science Honors Thesis (co-examiner)
2015/16	Ho Wee Seng, Political Science Honors Thesis (supervisor)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Referee

American Journal of Political Science, Asian Politics & Policy, ASIEN – The German Journal on Contemporary Asia, Comparative Political Studies, Critical Asian Studies, Democratization, Ecology and Society, Explorations in Economic History, Governance, Journal of Asian and African Studies, Journal of Contemporary Asia, Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of East Asian Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Journal of Southeast Asian Economies, Natural Resources Forum, Pacific Affairs, Political Behavior, Political Research Quarterly, Politics, Politics Groups & Identities, TRaNS: Trans-Regional and -National Studies of Southeast Asia, Trends in Southeast Asia, World Development, World Politics

NIAS Press, ISEAS (NUS) Press

Editorial Boards

Pacific Affairs, 2023-
Asian Politics & Policy, 2017-
Social Science Asia, 2016-2017 (single issue)

External Service

External Examiner, University of Essex & Chulalongkorn University Partnership
 (AY 2022/2023 – AY 2025/2026)

Department Service

Associate Dean (Research), SOSS (2023-2024)
 SMU Faculty Senate (2021-2023)
 Political Science Course Coordinator (2015-2022)
 SOSS Curriculum Committee (2016-2022)
 START Scholarship Committee (2016-2022)

SOSS Admissions Committee (2017-2022)
SOSS External Academic Review School Committee (2021-2022)
SOSS Tenure & Promotions Committees, SEC & REC (2021, 2022)
SMU Strategic Priority Expert Panel, Growth in Asia (2020)
SOSS Dean Search Committee (2018)
Helen Chuan Chin Xiang Thesis Award Committee (2018)
Political Science Search Committee (8 committees, 2013-2019)
Public Policy Search Committee (5 committees, 2013-2019)
SOSS Valedictorian Selection Committee (2017, 2019, 2021, 2022)
Peer Coach Training (2016)
Dean's Evaluation Committee (2016, 2021)
Asian Studies Curriculum Committee Member (2014)
Steering Committee on Research (2013)

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

2015 Visiting Professor at the College of Local Administration, Khon Kaen University.
 Khon Kaen, Thailand (3 months).

2012 Visiting Scholar at the Thailand Development Research Institute. Bangkok, Thailand
 (6 months).

2011 Visiting Scholar at Gadjah Mada University. Yogyakarta, Indonesia (11 months).

LANGUAGES

Thai Advanced Proficiency
Indonesian Advanced Proficiency