

Area Studies Feedback

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1. Did the course change your understanding of area studies or did it just confirm your already existing idea?

- Yes. I have been familiar with some particular areas, but these studies focused on more economic, or political matters. I have learned the significance of a holistic perspective on area studies, including not only political and economic, but also cultural or social point of views.

2. Which area/topic was the most interesting for you and in which way eventually would you like this topic to be expanded?

- Africa and Asia (Indo-Pacific region)
 - We know that Africa is huge, diverse and can't be put in one box, but I often overgeneralise this region and people. I have learnt how to understand Africa from different sites throughout the sessions.
 - I have often mixed the concept of Asia-Pacific and Indo-Pacific up. However, during the lecture, I have understood what is behind these two concepts and how different they are.

3. The basic idea of the course was to demonstrate that area studies are able to encompass the great diversity of approaches, from IR to cultural studies. Were we successful in defending the idea? Or was it apparent that there are really distinct approaches and sources that, at the end of the day, are used in the same manner?

- Generally, the course was quite comprehensive and informative, even though we have to talk about all continents/regions within the limited period of time. However, I would say that some parts of lectures were too specific to understand or to relate to the plot of the lecture as a whole. It would be even nicer if the lecture is more cohesive as a whole, rather than talking about a too particular matter of professors' specialities.