SYLLABUS HISTORY 142 (=South Asian Studies 142), 3-4 credits

HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA TO THE PRESENT

Fall 1994
11:00-12:15 TR 1111 Humanities

Instructor: Prof. André Wink
Office hours: 12:15-13:15 TR
Office # 4133
Mailbox # 4003

Readings:

2. A. L. Basham, The Wonder that was India (New Delhi, 1987), pp. 1-79.
5. A. T. Embree (ed.), Alberuni's India (New York, 1971), pp. v-xix, 3-32, 50-58 (Ch. V), 99-104 (Ch. IX), 111-124 (Ch. X), 130-153 (Ch. LXIII-LXVIII).

Requirements 3 credits: readings as indicated above; one mid-term and one final exam; 3-page essay-question (double spaced), to be handed in with final exam.

Requirements 4 credits: readings as indicated above, plus Basham, pp. 138-233 & Gombrich, pp. 137-171; additional questions in mid-term exam; 6-page essay-question (double-spaced), to be handed in with final exam.

Reference works:
C. E. Bosworth, The Islamic Dynasties (Edinburgh, 1967).
The Encyclopaedia of Islam (Leiden & London, 1965-).
week 1  (September 1)

Introduction

week 2  (September 6-8)

The periodization of Indian history.  
The concept of 'India' and the historical geography of South Asia and the Indianized territories of Southeast Asia.

Readings: Brown, pp. 4-31; Basham, pp. 1-9.

week 3  (September 13-15)

Languages of the 'classical', 'medieval' and 'modern' periods.  
The Indus Valley (Harappā) civilization and the transition to Vedic India.

Readings: Basham, pp. 10-44; Renfrew, pp. 106-114.

week 4  (September 20-22)

The rise of the heterodox salvation religions: Buddhism and Jainism.  
Hinayana and Mahayana Buddhism; the influence of these religions beyond India and their political and economic ramifications.


week 5  (September 27-29)

India’s classical civilization from the Mauryas to the Guptas.  
The main developments of the early medieval period (7th-11th centuries): 1. The development and consolidation of caste and Hindu kingship; 2. The maritime expansion of Islam and the Arab conquest of Sind; 3. The Indianization of Southeast Asia.

Readings: Basham, pp. 71-79; Lamb, pp. 442-454.
week 6  (October 4-6)

Early medieval India in its world-historical context; the contemporary civilizations of Islam, Christian Europe, Byzantium, China, Central Asia and Tibet, Persia.

Readings: Eaton, pp. 1-29.

week 7  (October 11-13)

The rise of monumental temple Hinduism; the different styles of Indian religious architecture.
Indian temple architecture in Southeast Asia.

Slides:

Early and late medieval temple architecture in South Asia (Sanchi, Calukya, Cola, Vijayanagara, Nayaka, Orissa, Hoysala, Somnath, Candella, Martanda, Chitor).

Indian temple architecture in Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Burma, Java).


week 8  (October 18-20)

October 18: Indian iconography and Islamic iconoclasm.
October 20: mid-term exam

week 9  (October 25-27)

Islamic expansion in India: military conquest, trade, conversion.

Slides:

Architecture and art of the Ghaznavids, Ghurids, Slave Kings of Delhi, Ismā‘īlīs of Bhadreshvar, Tughluqs, Sayyids, Lodis, and the Jaunpur, Deccan and Bengal dynasties.

Readings: Eaton, pp. 31-51.
week 10 (November 1-3)

The Pax Mongolica and developments in world trade in the 13th-15th centuries.

Slides:

Malacca

Readings: none. Take home essay question.

week 11 (November 8-10)

Mughal India, 1526-1857 A. D.
Political constitution, agrarian system and economy of the Mughal empire; Mughal art and architecture; Mughal successor states of the 18th century.

Slides:

Timurid Herat, Mughal painting, Rajput painting and architecture, Mughal architecture.

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 1-264; Brown, pp. 31-45.

week 12 (November 15-17)

World trade, merchant empires, and the economy of the Indian Ocean; the beginnings of European supremacy in India and the Indian Ocean; India and the rise of modern capitalism. The expansion and consolidation of the dominion of the East India Company; a comparison with Dutch and French expansion in Indonesia and Indochina.

Slides: Malaysia, Aceh (North Sumatra).

Readings: Brown, pp. 46-94.

week 13 (November 22)

British rule and the Indian economy, 1800-1914, Part I: the nature of the debates; land and agriculture.

Readings: Brown, pp. 95-167.
week 14 (November 29-December 1)

No classes scheduled (Out of town).

week 15 (December 6-8)

British rule and the Indian economy, 1800-1914, Part II: industrialisation or de-industrialisation? modernisation, investment, trade, and the imperial connection. The changing patterns of Indian politics in the 20th century.

Readings: Brown, pp. 194-250.

week 16 (December 13-15)

Empire or Nation? India in the 1930s and 1940s; the rise of nationalism; Independence and Partition. Some dilemmas of 'the world's biggest democracy'.

Readings: Brown, pp. 251-398.