SYLLABUS HISTORY 142, 4 credits

HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA TO THE PRESENT

FALL 2004-2005
4:00-5:15 TR 1101 George L. Mosse Humanities Building

Instructor: Professor André Wink
Office hours: 1:30-3:30 W
Office: Department of History, Humanities #4133; phone 263-5092
Mailbox: Humanities #4003; e-mail: awink@facstaff.wisc.edu

Teaching assistant: Ian C. Wendt
Office: Department of History, Humanities #4272; phone 263-1939
Mailbox: Humanities # 5103; e-mail: icwendt@students.wisc.edu

This course presents a survey of the history of South Asia from the earliest beginnings to the present, including the major religious traditions of Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. The main aim of the course is to situate the history of South Asia in the wider context of world history. As such, the course also provides insight into the complexities of the current situation in South Asia and the American role in the region.

Textbooks and other reading materials:

A. Textbooks available in the University Bookstore and on reserve in the College Library

1. A. L. Basham, *The Wonder that was India* (New Delhi, 1987)
B. Photocopy materials available at the Humanities Copy Center

A. Wink, 'India and the world of the Indian Ocean: history in geographical and ecological perspective'

Course requirements: attendance of lectures and TA sections; readings as specified; one mid-term and one final exam: one essay of 5-7 pages (double-spaced) on a take-home question. Final grade: 20% TA discussions; exams and essay one-third each of the remainder.

Exam dates: mid-term October 12; take-home essay question November 9/ hand in December 9; final exam December 18, 5:05 PM

Lecture 1: September 2

Introduction

Handout: course syllabus

Lecture 2: September 7

India and the world of the Indian Ocean: history in geographical and ecological perspective

Readings: Wink, pp. 1-8

Lecture 3: September 9

The historical unity of the Indian Ocean: coastlines, the connections of land and sea, and the major subregions

Readings: Wink, pp. 8-19

Lecture 4: September 14
Historical patterns of settlement and movement

Readings: Wink, pp. 19-40

Lecture 5: September 16

The fractured past: India’s many histories

Basham, Chapter I, 'Introduction: India and her Ancient Culture'

Lecture 6: September 21

Pre-historical origins: the Indus valley (Harappā) civilization and the transition to Vedic India

Readings: Basham, Chapter II, 'Prehistory: The Harappā Culture and the Āryans'

Lecture 7: September 23

Ancient empires: from the Mauryas to the Guptas

Readings: Basham, Chapter III, up to 'The Middle Ages in the North'

Lecture 8: September 28

Buddhism, state and society in ancient India and Sri Lanka

Readings: Gombrich, pp. 1-171

Lecture 9: September 30

The rise and early expansion of Islam

Readings: Eaton, pp. 1-29

Lecture 10: October 5
Medieval India

Readings: Basham, Chapter III,'The Middle Ages in the North' and 'The Middle Ages in the Peninsula'

Lecture 11: October 7

India and the Turko-Mongol world

Readings: Tignor, pp. 1-48

MID-TERM EXAM: October 12

Lecture 12: October 14

The trade and civilisation of India and the Indian Ocean in the half millennium prior to the discovery of the sea route in 1498 A.D.

Readings: Chaudhuri, pp. 1-62, 121-181

Lecture 13: October 19

Changing frontiers of conquest and conversion: the emergence of an Indo-Islamic political domain

Readings: Tignor, pp. 48-77; Eaton, pp. 31-46

Lecture 14: October 21

The age of Islamic empires: Mughals, Safawids and Ottomans in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries

Readings: Tignor, pp. 110-115, 136-141, 165-171

Lecture 15: October 26
The Mughal empire from Babur (1526-1530) to Humayun (1530-1556) and Akbar (1556-1605)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 11-128

Lecture 16: October 28

The Mughal empire from Jahangir (1605-1627) to Shah Jahan (1627-1658) and Aurangzeb (1658-1707)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 129-249

Lecture 17: November 2

Guns and sails: European mercantile expansion in the Indian Ocean

Readings: Chaudhuri, pp. 63-97

Lecture 18: November 4

Successors of the Mughals

Readings: Tignor, pp. 227-230

Lecture 19: November 9

The expansion and consolidation of the British Raj

Readings: Tignor, pp. 263-268, 286-288

Lecture 20: November 11

The British Raj in comparative perspective

Readings: Tignor, pp. 288-297, 300-304
Lecture 21: November 16

*Rulers and subjects: limitations of the British Raj*

Readings: Copland, pp. 3-13

Lecture 22: November 18

*The rise of Indian nationalism*

Readings: Copland, pp. 17-52

Lecture 23: November 23

*Muslim separatism*

Readings: Copland, pp. 53-87

Lecture 24: November 30

*The most dangerous place in the world? (Mis)understanding South Asia today*

Lecture 25: December 2

*The perils of Pakistan*

Readings: Rashid, pp. 1-30, 183-195

Lecture 26: December 7

*The new Great Game*

Readings: Rashid, pp. 82-156, 207-216
Lecture 27: December 9

Epilogue: Hindus and Muslims in the world’s biggest democracy

DISCUSSION: December 14