

SYLLABUS HISTORY 142, 4 credits

HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA TO THE PRESENT

FALL 2004-2005

4:00-5:15 TR 1111 George L. Mosse Humanities Building

Instructor: Professor André Wink

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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)
2. R. Gombrich, *Theravada Buddhism* (London & New York, 1991)
3. R. M. Eaton, *Islamic History as Global History* (Washington, 1990)
4. R. Tignor et al, *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of the Modern World from the Mongol Empire to the Present* (New York & London, 2002)
5. B. Gascoigne, *The Great Moghuls* (London, 1973)
6. K. N. Chaudhuri, *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean* (Cambridge, 1985)
7. I. Copland, *India 1885-1947: The Unmaking of an Empire* (London, 2001)
8. A. Rashid, *Taliban: Islam, Oil and the New Great Game in Central Asia* (London & New York, 2000)

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 February 24; take-home essay question March 31/ hand in April 28; final exam May 13, 7:45 AM

Lecture 1: January 18

Introduction

Handout: course syllabus

Lecture 2: January 20

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

Readings: Wink, pp. 1-8

Lecture 3: January 25

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: January 27

Historical patterns of settlement and movement

Readings: Wink, pp. 19-40

Lecture 5: February 1

The fractured past: India's many histories

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

Lecture 6: February 3

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: February 8

Ancient empires: from the Mauryas to the Guptas

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

Lecture 8: February 10

Buddhism, state and society in ancient India and Sri Lanka

Readings: Gombrich, pp. 1-171

Lecture 9: February 15

The rise and early expansion of Islam

Readings: Eaton, pp. 1-29

Lecture 10: February 17

Medieval India

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

Lecture 11: February 22

India and the Turko-Mongol world

Readings: Tignor, pp. 1-48

MID-TERM EXAM: February 24

Lecture 12: March 1

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: March 3

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: March 8

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: March 10

The Mughal empire from Babur (1526-1530) to Humayun (1530-1556) and Akbar (1556-1605)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 11-128

Lecture 16: March 15

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

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 129-249

Lecture 17: March 17

Guns and sails: European mercantile expansion in the Indian Ocean

Readings: Chaudhuri, pp. 63-97

Lecture 18: March 29

Successors of the Mughals

Readings: Tignor, pp. 227-230

Lecture 19: March 31

The expansion and consolidation of the British Raj

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

Lecture 20: April 5

The British Raj in comparative perspective

Readings: Tignor, pp. 288-297, 300-304

Lecture 21: April 7

Rulers and subjects: limitations of the British Raj

Readings: Copland, pp. 3-13

Lecture 22: April 12

The rise of Indian nationalism

Readings: Copland, pp. 17-52

Lecture 23: April 14

Muslim separatism

Readings: Copland, pp. 53-87

Lecture 24: April 19

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

Lecture 25: April 21

The perils of Pakistan

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

Lecture 26: April 26

The new Great Game

Readings: Rashid, pp. 82-156, 207-216

Lecture 27: April 28

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

Lecture 28: May 3: Summary

Lecture 29: May 5: Discussion