

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

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### Readings:

1. C. Renfrew, 'The Origins of Indo-European Languages', *Scientific American*, October 1989, pp. 106-114 (handout).
2. A. L. Basham, *The Wonder that was India* (New Delhi, 1987), pp. 1-79.
3. R. Gombrich, *Theravada Buddhism* (London & New York, 1991), pp. 1-136.
4. A. Lamb, 'Indian Influence in Ancient South-East Asia', in: A. L. Basham (ed.), *A Cultural History of India* (Oxford, 1975), pp. 442-454 (handout).
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).
6. R. M. Eaton, *Islamic History as Global History* (Washington, 1990), pp. 1-51.
7. B. Gascoigne, *The Great Moghuls* (London, 1987), pp. 1-264.
8. J. M. Brown, *Modern India* (Oxford, 1994), pp. 1-167, 194-398.

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:

- The Times Atlas of World History* (London, 1978).  
J. E. Schwartzberg, *A Historical Atlas of South Asia* (Chicago, 1978).  
F. Robinson, *Atlas of the Islamic World since 1500* (Oxford, 1982).  
C. E. Bosworth, *The Islamic Dynasties* (Edinburgh, 1967).  
*The Encyclopaedia of Islam* (Leiden & London, 1965-).  
C. H. Philips (ed.), *Handbook of Oriental History* (London, 1950).

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.

Readings: Basham, pp. 45-71; Gombrich, pp. 1-136.

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).

Readings: Embree, pp. v-xix, 3-32, 50-58, 99-104, 111-124, 130-153 (Chs LXIII-LXVIII).

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 Bhadrashvar, 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.