

SYLLABUS HISTORY 142, 4 credits

HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA TO THE PRESENT

SPRING 2006-2007

4:00-5:15 TR 1651 George L. Mosse Humanities Building

Instructor: Professor André Wink

Office hours: 12:20-1:20 W, 3:00-4:00 R

Office: Department of History, Humanities #4133; phone 263-5092

Mailbox: Humanities #4003; email: awink@wisc.edu

Teaching assistant: James Willaman

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 in so far as these are relevant for the historical development of the subcontinent.

Textbook

S. Wolpert, *A New History of India* (Seventh edition, New York, 2004).

Course requirements: attendance of lectures and films; readings as specified in this syllabus; one mid-term and a final exam; one essay of 5-7 pages (double spaced) on a take-home question.

Exam dates: mid-term March 13; take home essay question March 22; hand in essay April 12; final exam May 14, 5:05 PM

Lecture 1: January 23

Introduction

Lecture 2: January 25

The ecological setting

Read: pp. ix-xii, 1-12

Lecture 3: January 30

Geography and history

Lecture 4: February 1

Pre-historical origins: the Indus Valley (Harappa) civilization, the Aryans and the transition to Vedic India

Read: chapters 2 & 3 (pp. 13-34)

Lecture 5: February 6

The Aryan conquest of North India and the rise of Buddhism and Jainism

Read: chapter 4 (pp. 35-52)

Lecture 6: February 8

The Maurya empire (326-184 B. C.)

Read: chapter 5 (pp. 53-67)

Lecture 7: February 13

South Asia between the Maurya and the Gupta empires (184 B. C.-320 A. D.)

Read: chapter 6 (pp. 68-85)

Lecture 8: February 15

The classical age: the imperial Guptas (ca. 320-550 A. D.) and Harsha (606-647 A. D.)

Read: chapter 7 (pp. 86-104)

Lecture 9: February 20

The rise and early expansion of Islam (622-962 A. D.)

Read: chapter 8, pp. 105-107

Lecture 10: February 22

The expansion of Islam in South Asia from 962 A. D. to 1556 A. D.

Read: chapter 8, pp. 107-125

Lecture 11: February 27

The Mughal empire under Akbar (1556-1605 A. D.)

Read: chapter 9 (pp. 126-134)

Lecture 12: March 1

European mercantile expansion in India and the Indian Ocean in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries

Read: chapter 10 (pp. 135-147)

Lecture 13: March 6

The Mughal empire under Jahangir (1605-1627 A. D.), Shah Jahan (1627-1658 A. D.), and Aurangzeb (1658-1707 A. D.)

Read: chapter 11 (pp. 148-168)

Lecture 14: March 8

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March 13

MID-TERM EXAM

Lecture 15: March 15

India between empires: the eighteenth century

Read: chapters 12 & 13 (pp. 169-199)

Lecture 16: March 20

The expansion of the British Company Raj (1793-1848 A. D.)

Read: chapter 14 (pp. 200-223)

Lecture 17: March 22

The Mutiny of 1857/58 A. D. and the transition to Crown Rule

Read: chapters 15 & 16 (pp. 224-246)

Lecture 18: March 27

The beginnings of Indian nationalism (1885-1905 A. D.)

Read: chapters 17 & 18 (pp. 247-272)

Lecture 19: March 29

Film (with discussion): 'Living together and apart: Hindus and Muslims in South Asia'

Lecture 20: April 10

Indian nationalism and reform to the end of the First World War (1905-1919 A. D.)

Read: chapters 19 & 20 (pp. 273-300)

Lecture 21: April 12

Toward independence (1920-1939 A. D.)

Read: chapter 21 (pp. 301-329)

Lecture 22: April 17

Film (with discussion): 'India: Defying the Crown'

Lecture 23: April 19

The Second World War and its impact on India (1939-1946 A. D.)

Read: chapter 22 (pp. 330-353)

Lecture 24: April 24

India under Jawaharlal Nehru (1947-1964 A. D.)

Read: chapter 23 (pp. 354-373)

Lecture 25: April 26

South Asia between 1964 A. D. and 1977 A. D.

Read: chapter 24 (pp. 374-406)

Lecture 26: May 1

South Asia between 1977 A. D. and 1997 A. D.

Read: chapter 25 (pp. 407-450)

Lecture 27: May 3

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

Read: chapter 26 (pp. 451-470)

Lecture 28: May 8

Film (with discussion): 'Afghanistan: exporting the Taliban revolution'

Lecture 29: May 10

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