

HISTORY 450: THE HISTORY OF MODERN SOUTH ASIA
(OFFICIALLY LISTED AS MODERN INDIA 1860-1990: THE AGE OF GANDHI)

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00-3:00pm

History 450, Fall 2012

3-4 credits

Humanities Room 1651

Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00am-12:15pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Please note the change in the title of this course which has been listed officially as *Modern India 1860-1990, the Age of Gandhi*. India, however, is but one nation-state within South Asia - a region that is home to over one-fifths of the world's population. Given the diversity of people, languages, histories and states in South Asia, everything you have ever heard about it is true. But the exact opposite is also true. South Asia remains a paradox for those who live there and those interested in getting to know more about it. Tradition and modernity, development and stagnation, the past and the future all exist simultaneously, at times in harmony and at other times in conflict with one another. Through an exploration of the political, social and economic history of this region from the 18th century to the present day, students will learn about the making of modern South Asia and attempt to understand this paradox. Topics covered will include colonial rule, anti-colonial movements, nationalism and the creation of modern India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the post-colonial nation state, social movements, religious identity and economic development. Through readings, lectures and discussions every week, I hope that students will take away from this course an understanding of the successes, failures and challenges faced today by the people and states of modern South Asia from a historical perspective.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1) **Two** in-class map quizzes.
- 2) **One** 5-page (double spaced), paper on **any one** of the books listed at the end of the syllabus due on the date indicated. Students are required to sign up in class on **9/13** indicating their book preference.
- 3) **Three** 1,500-word (not exceeding 4 double-spaced pages) take-home exams (essays). Questions will be distributed in class on dates indicated in the syllabus and should be returned in class on the due dates
- 4) **One** final group presentation.
- 5) Students taking the course for 4 credits are required to write **three** 2-page (double-spaced) response papers to the primary source readings in *any one* week that primary sources have been assigned. Response papers are due in class on the dates indicated on the syllabus.

EVALUATION:For 3 credits:

Class participation and attendance: 15%

Map quizzes: 5%

Short paper: 20%

Take-home exams/essays: 50%

Class presentation: 10%

For 4 credits:

Class participation and attendance: 10%

Map quizzes: 5%

Short paper: 20%

Take-home exams/essays: 45%

Response papers: 10%

Class presentation: 10%

More than **two** unexplained absences taken without the instructor's prior permission will result in a point deduction from the overall class grade. All medical claims must be accompanied by a doctor's note. Please look over the due dates of assignments carefully for any potential conflict with other class commitments. You can request a change in the due-date by **9/13**. No extensions will be considered after this date with the exception of medical emergencies that must be supported with appropriate documentation.

READINGS:

All readings listed in the syllabus are required readings. Short articles and chapters are available on the learn@uw course website; primary sources accessible on the internet have been indicated as appropriate. Journal articles are can be accessed online through MadCat. Two books are available for purchase from the university book store:

Barbara Metcalf and Thomas Metcalf, *A Concise History of Modern India*

Basharat Peer, *Curfewed Night: One Kashmiri Journalist's Frontline Account of Life, Love and War in His Homeland*

Please check the course website for guidelines for the take-home exam essays, response papers, short paper and group presentations. Use the three maps as study guides for the map quizzes.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week I

9/4 Modern South Asia: Introduction
9/6 The Mughal Empire: An Overview

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India* ch 1

Week II

9/11 India between Empires
9/13 Company Raj: From Trade to Politics
*****Last day to request date-change for any written assignments*****
****Sign up for book review on 9/13****

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India*, ch 2, ch 3 till p.80
C.A. Bayly, *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire*, ch 1

Week III

9/18 Company Rule in the Age of Reform
9/20 Resistance & Rebellion

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India*, ch 3 (80-90) & ch 4
D. A. Washbrook, "India 1818-1860: The Two Faces of Colonialism"
Macaulay's minute on education <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1833macaulay-india.asp>
(*Note for response papers: Macaulay reading is a primary source*)

Week IV

9/25 Indentured Labor and the Making of a Diaspora
9/27 Map Quiz (India 1860) and Discussion
First take-home exam question(s) will be distributed in class on 9/27

Readings: Bentinck on sati <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1829bentinck.asp>
Rammohan Roy on sati <http://chnm.gmu.edu/wwh/p/101.html>
Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, ch 3
(*Note for response papers: Bentinck and Roy are primary sources*)

Week V

10/2 From Company Rule to Crown Raj

*****First take-home exam essay due in class on 10/2*****

10/4 Anti-Colonial Critique before World War I

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India* ch 5

B. Cohn, "The Census, Social Structure and Objectification in South Asia"

Rabindranath Tagore, "Where the Mind is Without Fear" (on course website)

Dadabhai Naoroji, <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1871britishrule.asp>

Bal Gangadhar Tilak, <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1907tilak.asp>

(Note for response papers: Tagore, Naoroji and Tilak readings are primary sources)

Week VI

10/9 Gandhian Nationalism

First response paper due in class on 10/9; Option I short paper due in class on 10/9

10/11 Gandhian Nationalism (cont.)

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India*, ch. 6

Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, *Modern South Asia*, chs 13 & 14

M. K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj* (selections on course website)

Gandhi's Quit India Resolution, <http://www.ibiblio.org/pha/policy/1942/420427a.html>

(Note for response papers: *Hind Swaraj* and *Quit India Resolution* are primary sources)

Week VII

10/16 The Interwar Years

10/18 Region, Religion and the Making of a Nation

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India* ch 7

Ayesha Jalal and Anil Seal, Alternative to Partition: Muslim Politics Between the Wars, *Modern Asian Studies*, 15, 3 1981

Week VIII

10/23 Independence and Partition

10/25 Discussion

Second take-home exam essay question(s) will be distributed in class on 10/25

Readings: Asim Roy, "The High Politics of India's Partition: The Revisionist Perspective", in *Modern Asian Studies*, 24(2), 1990

Watch "Partition: The Day India Burned" on youtube.com (all 9 parts)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQcMPbHfxaA>

(Note for response papers: *partition documentary* is a primary source)

Week IX

10/30 Post-colonial Nation-State: Nehru's India and Congress Hegemony

*****Second take-home exam essay due in class on 10/30*****

11/1 Post-colonial India: The Regional Imperative and the Decline of the Congress

Option II short paper due in class on 11/1

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India* ch 8

Ramachandra Guha, *India After Gandhi*, chs 22 & 24

Freedom at Midnight <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1947nehru1.asp>;

Read Nehru's speech at UW-Madison: <http://digioll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/UW/UW-idx?type=article&did=UW.Nehru.PNehr&id=UW.Nehru&isize=M>

(Note for response papers: *Freedom at Midnight* and *Nehru's speech at UW* are primary sources)

Week X

11/6 Post-colonial Pakistan

11/8 Post-colonial Pakistan (contd)

Second response paper due in class on 11/7

Readings: C. Jaffrelot, *A History of Pakistan and its Origins*, ch 1 & 11

Owen Bennett Jones, *Pakistan: Eye of the Storm*, ch 5

Week XI

11/13 Challenges to the Nation-State: Emergence of Bangladesh

11/15 Challenges to the Nation-State: Punjab

Readings: Mark Juergensmeyer, *Terror in the Mind of God*, ch 5

Mark Tully, *No Full Stops in India*, ch 5

Week XII *****Students will be divided into groups for class presentations on 11/20*****

11/20 Nuclear South Asia: Guest Lecture by Professor Vipin Narang, Department of Political Science

11/22 No Class: Thanksgiving Break

Readings: Vipin Narang, "Posturing for Peace? Pakistan's Nuclear Postures and South Asian Stability" in *International Security*, 34(3)2009

available at: <http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1162/isec.2010.34.3.38>

Week XIII *Start working on group presentations*****

11/27 Challenges to the Nation-State: Kashmir

Option III short paper due in class on 11/27

11/29 Map Quiz (Contemporary South Asia) and Discussion

Readings: Basharat Peer, *Curfewed Night* (whole book)

(Note for response papers: Peer is a primary source)

Week XIV

12/4 Politics of Religion and Caste in India

12/6 Student Presentations: South Asia in the Twenty-First Century

Readings: Metcalf, *Modern India* ch 9

Myron Weiner, "The Struggle for Equality", in Atul Kohli (ed) *Success of India's Democracy*

Amrita Basu, "The Dialectics of Hindu Nationalism" in Atul Kohli (ed) *Success of India's Democracy*

Week XV

12/11 South Asia in the Twenty-First Century: Student Presentations

Third response paper due in class on 12/11; Option IV short paper due in class on 12/11

Third take-home exam essay question will be distributed in class

12/13 No Class: Work on Final Papers

Third take-home exam essay due on 12/17

Book Options and Due Dates for Short-Paper: Please indicate your preference on the sign-up sheet circulated in class on

Option I: Amitav Ghosh, *Sea of Poppies*, Paper due on 10/9

Option II: Saadat Hassan Manto, *Mottled Dawn*, Paper due on 11/1

Option III: Mohammed Hanif, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*, Paper due on 11/27

Option IV: Rohinton Mistry, *A Fine Balance*, Paper due on 12/11