

HIST 163 Introduction to Modern South Asia: British Imperialism to the Present

Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 – 10:50

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Office Hours: M/Tues 2-4pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will use a combined chronological and thematic approach, against a historical canvas that engages such diverse issues as gender, political economy, conquest, resistance, state formation, economic exploitation, national liberation, and identity politics. This course will begin in the eighteenth century during the transition between two empires (the Mughals and the British), and will end in the present. The aim of this course is to interrogate the impact of British colonialism and South Asian nationalisms on the state, society, and people of the subcontinent. We will study South Asia with an eye to the experiences of its peoples. This course seeks to develop a narrative about South Asia that is sensitive to both the profound change wrought by colonialism, and the agency of South Asians in the making of their modernity. Topics covered include: the remaking of Indian society under the British Raj, the Partition of India and creation of Pakistan, and the War on Terror in South Asia. These will be investigated from historical and anthropological perspectives. Texts and readings will draw upon recent secondary research, historical and literary primary source materials, a novel, and films. We will address both the most significant historical moments of modern South Asian history and the historiographical debates that surround them.

COURSE WEBSITE AND READINGS

You will find the syllabus as well all of the electronic readings for this course on Blackboard.
***Make sure you print out the readings and bring them to class with you.**

BOOKS FOR PURCHASE:

Bose & Jalal (B & J), *The Making of Modern South Asia* (2011 edition)
D.R. Nagaraj, *Flaming Feet and Other Essays: Dalit Movement in India* (2010 edition)
Mohammad Hanif, *Our Lady Alice of Bhatti* (2010)

These books have been ordered for you and are available at the bookstore.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE BREAKDOWN

You will be expected to complete the reading assigned for each class on or before the day that it is listed on the syllabus. Completing the reading means that you have not only literally read the assignment, but that you have spent some time putting together your thoughts and questions about the readings, the subject, and how all of these relate to the themes of the course. You will have written assignments / reading questions almost every week. The participation portion of your final grade will take in to account your attendance, preparation for, and active participation in class. The * asterisk denotes optional reading. While it is not required, you may want to include them for your longer papers and class discussion.

- 5% Map Quiz
- 20% Reading Questions + Class Participation
- 25% 1 Response Papers (3-5 pages)
- 25% Midterm Essay (5 pages)
- 25% Final Paper (7 pages)

GRADE SYSTEM

The grading is as follows: A+ 100-97; A 96-93; A- 92-90; B+ 89-87; B 86-83; B- 82-80; C+ 79-77; C 76-73; C- 72-70; D 65-69, F below 65.

PARTICIPATION

Active class participation means that you are not just physically present, but that you are mentally engaged in class. Students are expected to attend all classes; complete all reading; and participate in discussion (always bring printed copies of the texts to class and be prepared to reference them). To prepare for class discussions, students should mark passages in readings that excite, inspire, disturb, or puzzle so that they can ask questions, articulate confusions and engage in lively but open-minded and respectful debate.

READING QUESTIONS

Reading questions will not be graded, but **typed responses in 12 point font** must be handed in **on time in class**, for full class participation credit [pass/fail].

RESPONSE PAPERS / FINAL ESSAY

Essays should be double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12-point font, with 1” margins and page numbers. Points will be taken off for not following this format. You will be evaluated based on your grasp of the readings in this course. You must use the Chicago-MLA style of citation for either in-text citations or footnotes. A citation guide is here:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/> Wikipedia will **not** be accepted as a source citation. All the standard forms (English language and historical) must be used (e.g. reference notes, bibliography, proper grammar and spelling). For additional writing guidelines, you may also seek the assistance of Oberlin’s Writing Center: <http://new.oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/departments/rhetoric/writing-associates-program/writing-center.dot>

POWER POINT LECTURES

I will post the power-point presentations on Blackboard. If you miss class, be sure to obtain the relevant lecture notes from a classmate.

SOURCES

We will be using several primary sources in this class. Here is a useful definition:

http://www.yale.edu/collections_collaborative/primarysources/primarysources.html. While reading works by historians and others, it is often useful to ask, ‘What sources is the author using?’, ‘How does a narrative change depending upon the sources used?’ etc.,

IN-CLASS GUIDELINES: Please...

Switch off all cell phones for the duration of the class

No Laptop / Tablets / I-Pads / Cell Phones Policy

Do not saunter in late or leave early without speaking/e-mailing me beforehand.

ATTENDANCE and EXTENSION POLICY

You will be expected to attend class regularly. If you are **absent for three or more class days in a row** without a reasonable explanation presented before your absences, **your class dean will be contacted** before appropriate action is taken. In the event of illness or family **emergency**, please let me know **via e-mail**. If you need an extension, you must **e-mail me** at least **36 hours prior to the due-date** of the paper. Students will **not be granted more than two extensions** per semester. If an extension is granted and the **paper is not handed in by the agreed upon deadline, the paper will receive an F**. Barring extensions, all assignments must be handed in on the date they are due **in class**. Assignments turned in after class will be considered late. The grades for all assignments turned in late will be reduced by a 1/3 of a letter grade (ie. an A to an A-) for each day that they are late.

I only accept paper copies (**NO electronic submissions**) of your work unless otherwise stated. Please bring a **printed, stapled copy** of your paper to class to turn in. I will not read papers that are not stapled, or that do not have a name. There will be a penalty for papers handed in via e-mail unless otherwise stated.

RE-DOING ASSIGNMENTS / REVISIONS

I have a no revisions policy. If you wish to discuss a draft of the paper, you are welcome to discuss it with me in my office hours prior to submission. In the rare event that I do allow re-writes, do note that I have higher expectations the second time around: so, you may wind up with a lower grade if the re-written paper is not up to par.

INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY

In addition to my office hours, I am available via e-mail. If you cannot make my office hours, please e-mail me to schedule an appointment. Please note: **I do not respond to e-mails sent after 6pm M-F, until the middle of the next day, and do not respond to e-mails over the weekend.**

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

Appropriate accommodations will always be granted to students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability please see me early in the semesters. Any additional questions should be addressed to Jane Boomer, Coordinator of Disability Services:
<http://new.oberlin.edu/office/disability-services/>

HONOR CODE AND PLAGIARISM

The Honor Code applies to all assignments in this course. This means that any student found cheating, plagiarizing, turning in another person's work as his/her own or otherwise violating the instructor's instructions will be subject to a hearing before the Student Honor Committee. See the Rules and Regulations Section VI A and B in the Student Handbook. Citation guidelines here: <http://new.oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/departments/gender/writing-research/citations.dot>

GRADE APPEALS

You are always welcome to discuss a paper, but if you want the grade reconsidered, you must first submit a four-paragraph written appeal in which you evaluate your paper in each of the four criteria: thesis, organization, evidence, and style. A grade does not reflect process (it does not measure whether you worked hard) and it certainly does not reflect a value judgment about you as a person. A grade is an evaluation of the quality and analytical rigor of the thesis, organization, evidence, and style of a single piece of work, so ensure that your appeal addresses your finished paper in terms of those criteria rather than time and effort expended on it. Appeals must be submitted in hard copy no later than one week after graded papers are returned in class.

Syllabus / Readings Subject to Change

*denotes optional reading or viewing

READINGS AVAILABLE ON BLACKBOARD

Unless otherwise indicated, all the readings for this course will be from the books or from Blackboard. Blackboard readings will be available under the subheading, **Course Documents**, on the left-hand bar of the screen. Make sure you **register for the course**.

PART I: ORIENTATIONS

WEEK 1 ~ INTRODUCTION ~ NARRATIVES and BEGINNINGS

Feb 4: Introductions, Course Overview, Geography/Maps Presentation

Why history? Why care about modern South Asian history?
Our Texts, Scope of Course, and Syllabus

Feb 6: Narratives

Neeladri Bhattacharya, "The problem," in Seminar (p. 1-9)

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS FEB 6*****

WEEK 2 ~ INDIA BETWEEN EMPIRES: Eighteenth Century Transitions

Feb 11:

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 5, "India Between Empires: Decline or Decentralization?"

Charter granted by Queen Elizabeth to the East India Company (1600)

<http://www.centralexcisehyderabad4.gov.in/documents/history/1600.PDF>

Feb 13:

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 6, "The Transition to Colonialism: Resistance and Collaboration," 46-53.

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 7, "The First Century of British Rule, 1757-1857," 54-61

Clive's speech: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1772clive-india.html>

Tipu Sultan: Then and Now

<https://news.scroll.in/article/tipus-nationalist-detractors-may-actually-be-victims-of-colonial-propaganda?id=654808>

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS FEB 13*****

PART II: EARLY MODERN SOUTH ASIA

WEEK 3 ~ LIBERALISM, LAW, & REFORM IN EARLY BRITISH INDIA

Feb 18: India's Encounter with Liberalism

Thomas R. Metcalf, Chapter 1 & 2 in *Ideologies of the Raj*, pp. 1-43

*****MAP QUIZ FEB 18*****

Feb 20: The Reform of 'Tradition'

Lata Mani, "Contentious Traditions: The Debate on Sati in Colonial India," in *Recasting Women* (p. 88-123)

Selections from Rammohan Roy, "The Father of Modern India," in *Sources of Indian Tradition: Volume II* (p.15-17)

Primary Source: Raja Rammohun Roy "Abstract of the Arguments Regarding the Burning of Widows Considered as a Religious Rite" (1830)

<http://dart.columbia.edu/library/DART-0020/widows.pdf?context=main>

Primary Source: "Bentinck's Minute on Sati," "Sati: Regulation XVII" (1829)

<http://sdstate.edu/projectsouthasia/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&PageID=861388>

Primary Source: "The petition of Hindus against the abolition of sati" (1829)

http://dart.columbia.edu/library/DART-0010/hindu_pet.pdf?context=main

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS FEB 20*****

WEEK 4 ~ THE REVOLT OF 1857 & AFTERMATH

Feb 25: Revolt of 1857

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 9, "1857: Rebellion, Collaboration, and the Transition to Crown Raj," 72-79

Rudrangshu Mukherjee "Satan Let Loose upon Earth': The Kanpur Massacres in India in the Revolt of 1857" 92-116.

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS FEB 25*****

Feb 27: 'Mutiny' or 'First War of Independence'?

Watch: *Mangal Pandey, The Rising* (2007): on reserve in library; Screening: TBA

Primary Source: "Constitution of the Mutineers" [1857]
<http://www.flonnet.com/fl2412/stories/20070629006301600.htm>

The Trial of Mangal Pandey Parts I and II
http://www.chapatimystery.com/archives/university/the_trial_of_mangal_pandey_i.html
http://www.chapatimystery.com/archives/university/trial_of_mangal_pandey_ii.html

PART III: COLONIAL MODERNITY

WEEK 5 ~ COLONIAL WAYS OF 'KNOWING' INDIA

March 4: What Did It Mean to 'Know' India?

Bernard Cohn, *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India*. Intro (p.1-15)

Sanjay Nigam, "Disciplining and Policing the 'Criminals By Birth' Part 1: The Making of a Colonial Stereotype, The Criminal Tribes and Castes of North India (p. 130-164)

Elizabeth Kolsky, "The Body Evidencing the Crime: Rape on Trial in Colonial India" (109-130)

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS MARCH 4*****

March 6: What is Caste?

Nicholas Dirks, "Castes of Mind," *Representations* (p. 56-78)

Primary Source: Jyotirao Phule, "Slavery"

IN CLASS: Interview with Mridu Rai: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7_zmUghLmw

WEEK 6 ~ CODIFICATIONS OF RELIGIOUS LAWS, REFORM, REVIVALISM

March 11:

Scott Alan Kugle, "Framed, Blamed and Renamed: The Recasting of Islamic Jurisprudence in Colonial South Asia," *Modern Asian Studies* 35, 2 (2001) p. 257-294

Primary Source: Alan M. Guenther, "A Colonial Court Defines a Muslim", Chapter 22, *Islam in South Asia*, pg. 293-305

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS MARCH 11*****

March 13:

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 10, "High Noon of Colonialism" (80-88)

Metcalf, "Civil Society, Colonial Constraints" (p. 123-164)

Chapter 12, "Colonialism Under Siege" (104-110)

PART IV: THE RISE OF SOUTH ASIAN NATIONALISMS

WEEK 7 ~ ANTI-COLONIAL THINKERS

March 18: Gandhi's Politics, Allies, and Critics

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 13, "Gandhian Nationalism and Mass Politics in the 1920s" (111-121)

WATCH ENTIRE 2-PART BBC DOCUMENTARY ON GANDHI: (Total 2 Hours)

1. Gandhi: The Making of the Mahatma

(Parts 1-8): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBCqkX_afA&feature=relmfu

2. Gandhi: The Road to Freedom (Parts 1-6): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-BzMayiGCw&feature=relmfu>

Vinay Lal, "The Gandhi Everyone Loves to Hate" p. 55-63

March 20: Beyond Gandhi

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 14, "The Depression Decade" (122-29); Chapter 15, "Nationalism and Colonialism During World War II and Its Aftermath" (130-36)

Documentary on Subas Chandra Bose: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bj4hPHkeb-U>

IN CLASS: *A Message from the East* (Documentary on Muhammad Iqbal)

*****MIDTERM ESSAY DUE *****
*****SPRING BREAK MARCH 22nd – 30th *****

WEEK 8 ~ VOICES FROM BELOW

April 1: What is "Subaltern" History?

Ranajit Guha, "On Some Aspects of the Historiography of Colonial India" (p. 37-43)

"Bhim Rao Ambedkar: Spokesman of the Untouchables", *Sources of Indian Tradition* (324-33)

April 3: Dalit Voices

B.R. Nagaraj, *Flaming Feet* [Selections]

Irfan Ahmed, "A Different Jihad: Dalit Muslims Challenge to Ashraf Hegemony" (86-91)

***** RESPONSE PAPER DUE IN CLASS *****

WEEK 9 ~ COMMUNALISM, RADICALISM, & FASCISM

April 8: What is Communalism?

Gyan Pandey, *The Construction of Communalism in Colonial North India*, Introduction (p.1-22)

***** READING QUESTIONS DUE*****

April 10:

Charu Gupta, *Sexuality, Obscenity, Community: Women, Muslims, and the Hindu Public in Colonial India* Introduction, p. 1-29; Chapter 6: 'Us' and 'Them' p. 222-267

*Markus Daeschel, "Scientism and Its Discontents: The Indo-Muslim 'Fascism' of Inayatullah Khan Mashriqui" (p. 443-472)

WEEK 10 ~ PARTITION

April 15: Was Partition Inevitable?

Bose & Jalal, Chapter 16, "The Partition of India and the Creation of Pakistan" (137-158)

*Yasmin Khan, *The Great Partition: The Making of India and Pakistan* (p. 1-22)

David Gilmartin, "Partition, Pakistan, and South Asian History: In Search of a Narrative" (68-95)

April 17: Experiencing Partition

Watch the film, *Earth* http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEJdS7_RC4Q

*Yasmin Khan, *The Great Partition: The Making of India and Pakistan* (p.81-103)

Urvashi Butalia, "On Women's Agency During Partition" EPW, p. 12-24

Sa'adat Hasan Manto, "Toba Tek Singh"

<http://www.columbia.edu/itc/mealac/pritchett/00urdu/tobateksingh/translation.html>

***** READING QUESTIONS*****

PART V: POST-COLONIAL ENTANGLEMENTS

WEEK 11 ~ SUB-NATIONALISMS & NEW NATIONS

April 22: Kashmir

Nivedita Menon, Aditya Nigam, "When was the Nation?" in *Power and Contestation: India Since 1989* (p.135-167)

Agha Shahid Ali, "The Country Without a Post Office" - (A Poem)

Pankaj Mishra, Kashmir: The Never-Ending War

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2000/oct/19/kashmir-the-unending-war/>

IN CLASS: View interview with Kashmiri Journalist, Basharat Peer
http://www.democracynow.org/blog/2010/7/21/part_ii_kashmiri_journalist_basharat_peer_author_of_curfewed_night_a_frontline_memoir_of_life_love_and_war_in_kashmir

*****READING QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS APRIL 22*****

April 24: Bangladesh and the War of 1971

Bose & Jalal, “Post-Colonial South Asia: State and Economy, Society and Politics, 1947-1971”

Salman Hussain: *Towards 1971*: Parts I-VI

<http://greasedcartridge.wordpress.com/2012/02/23/1971-the-silencing-of-women/>

WEEK 12 ~ MINORITIES IN INDIA & PAKISTAN

April 29:

Nivedita Menon, Aditya Nigam, “Politics of Hindutva and the Minorities” (p.36-60)

Read Part 1 of Mohammad Hanif’s *Our Lady Alice of Bhatti*

VIEW FILM: Ramchand Pakistani

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQ4BeSNWi4>

May 1:

Finish Reading *Our Lady Alice of Bhatti*

Finish Viewing *Ramchand Pakistani*

*****DISCUSSION QUESTIONS DUE IN CLASS May 1*****

WEEK 13 ~ WAR ON TERROR IN SOUTH ASIA

May 6:

Nosheen Ali, “Books vs. Bombs? Humanitarian Development and the Narrative of Terror in Northern Pakistan”, *Third World Quarterly*, 31:4, 541-559

Amitava Kumar, *A Foreigner Carrying in the Crook of His Arm A Tiny Bomb* (Prologue and Introduction) p. 1-29 [*Chapter 1 p. 33-65] - photocopy

Barbara Metcalf, “Traditionalist Islamic Activism: Deoband, Tablighis, and Talibs”

<http://essays.ssrc.org/sept11/essays/metcalf.htm>

May 8: Final Discussion, Course Evaluations, and Hand Out Final

***** FINAL PAPER DUE 5pm, MAY 16, 2014*****