

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY
HISTORY DEPARTMENT

HISTORY 584

INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

Fall 2006

Class Room: Business 116
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2.10-3.30pm

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Office Hours: Thursday 3.30-5.30pm
And by appointment

Course Description

India/South Asia is home to more than one-fourth of the global population and to the some of most diverse ethnicities, languages, religions, and political philosophies. It is home to the largest and most diverse Muslim and Hindu populations in the world. It is home to more languages than Europe. It is simultaneously home to the largest democracy (US is second!) in the world, as well as the largest militaries with nuclear arms combined with a history of intense conflicts. As we head into the new millennium, the 'emerging' economies of South Asia are increasingly influencing economic and cultural globalization.

This course is a critical introduction to select topics in Indian history, from the 1500s onwards. We will study the history of Mughal Empire and British Empires, Colonial and National cultures, Development and Democracy, and the emergence of a Global India into the twenty-first century. We will examine problems and successes of governing a diverse population. We will look at plans to develop the economy, experience of economic and cultural globalization, experiments with democracy and authoritarianisms, political violence and reconciliation, and Hindu and Muslim religious nationalisms.

The course is based on lectures, discussions, student presentations. That means you, the student, will participate actively by critically engaging with the assigned readings and participating in class discussions. We will also view videos and films to enhance our discussions on particular topics.

Grading and Exams: Your part of the work will be:

- Read the assigned readings
- Attend class every Tuesday and Thursday.
- Participate in class discussions
- Write two take-home midterms and a final (7pages each).

Grading:

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|---------------------------------|-----|
| Take Home Exam(mid-Oct) | 30% |
| Take Home Exam(mid-Nov.) | 30% |
| Short Final Paper 5-7p.(Dec.14) | 20% |
| Class Participation | 20% |

Readings and Textbooks:

The following books are available at the SFSU Bookstore. Additionally, some of your readings will be made available to you online through blackboard (<http://online.sfsu.edu>). We will also view videos and films as listed in the syllabus.

Textbooks:

Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule*
S. Hay, *Sources of Indian Tradition v.2.*

Arundhati Roy, *Cost of Living*
U. Butalia, *Other Side of Silence*
Metcalf and Metcalf, *A Concise History of India*
V. Oldenburg, *Dowry Murder: Imperial Origins of a Cultural Crime*

Weekly Lectures and Readings

Week One: INTRODUCTION

- T, Aug29: Introduction
Brief outline of Indian History
- Th, Aug 31: Topic: Brief outline of Indian History Contd.
Video: *Indus to Independence: A Journey Through Indian History*
(AV:10825) 33min.

Week Two: EARLY MODERN INDIA: EMPIRE AND RELIGION

- T, Sep.5: Topic: Mughal Empire
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.1-27.
Video: *India's Fatehpur Sikri* (AV: 67278)
- Th, Sep.7: Islam and Hindu Kingship
P. Wagoner, "Sultan Among Hindu Kings: Dress, Titles, and Islamicization of Hindu Culture at Vijayanagara," in *Journal of Asian Studies*, 55, 4 (1996), pp.851-880. [blackboard]

Week Three: EARLY MODERN INDIA: EMPIRE AND TRADE

- T, Sep.12: India and Indian Ocean
R. Eaton, "Multiple Lenses: Differing Perspectives on Calicut," in L.Sears (ed.) *Autonomous Histories, Particular Truths: Essays in Honor of John Smal*. CSEAS, Wisconsin [blackboard]
S. Subrahmanyam, "Persians, Pilgrims, and Portuguese: The Travails of Masulipatnam Shipping in the Western Indian Ocean, 1590-1665," in *Modern Asian Studies*, 22,3 (1988), pp.503-530. [blackboard]
- Th, Sep.14: Topic: Cosmopolitan Deccan
R. Eaton, *A Social History of the Deccan*, 1300-1761. pp. 78-128.

Week Four: THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY: A TRANSITION

- T, Sep.19: Mughal Decline

Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.28-54

Th, Sep.21: Topic: From Company to State
B. Cohn, "From Indian Status to British Contract," in the *Journal of Economic History*, 21,4 (1961), pp.613-628.
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.55-90.

Week Five: EMPIRE AND CIVILIZATION

T, Sep.28: Topic: Liberalism and Empire
M. Davis, "Skeletons at the Feast," in *Late Victorian Holocausts: El Nino Famines and the Making of the Third World*. [blackboard]

Th, Sep.30: Topic: Modernization and British Rule
M. Davis, "Modernization of Poverty," in *Late Victorian Holocausts*
Metcalf&Metcalf, pp.91-122

Week Six: EMPIRE & THE REMAKING OF INDIA: WOMEN

T, Oct.3: V. Oldenburg, *Dowry Murder: Imperial Origins of a Cultural Crime*

Th, Oct.5: Colonialism and the "Reform" of Indian Society
V. Oldenburg, *Dowry Murder*, continue reading [discussion]

Week Seven: EMPIRE & THE REMAKING OF INDIA: WOMEN

T, Oct.10: Topic: Colonialism and Reform of Indian Society
V. Oldenburg, *Dowry Murder*. Complete the book. [discussion]

Th. Oct.12: Topic: Colonialism and "Reform" of Indian Society
S. Hay, *Sources*,

Week Eight: EMPIRE & THE REMAKING OF INDIA: RELIGION& CASTE

T, Oct.17: Colonialism and Communalism
G. Pandey, *Communalism in North India*, [blackboard]

Th. Oct.19: Colonial Rule and the Making of Indian Society
N. Dirks, "The Modernity of Caste," in *Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*, pp. 3-18. [blackboard]

Week Nine: EMERGENCE OF INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

T, Oct. 24: Topic: Indian National Congress
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp. 123-164.
S. Hay, *Sources*.

Th, Oct.26: Gandhi and Indian Nationalism
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.165-199.
Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule* [discussion]

Week Ten: INDIA-PAKISTAN: PARTITION

T, Oct.31: Partition
Hay, *Sources*, Chp.9: Pakistan: Defining an Islamic State
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.200-226.
Butalia, *Other Side of Silence* [discussion]

Th, Nov.2: Movie: *Earth* (AV:65810)
Butalia, *Other Side of Silence*

Week Eleven: DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONALISM

T, Nov. 7: Topic: Development and Planning
P. Chatterjee, *Nation and Its Fragments*, pp.200-219 [blackboard]
Metcalf&Metcalf, *History of India*, pp.227-259.

Th, Nov.9: Topic: Nation-State or State-Nations
S. Baruah, "Politics of Subnationalism: Society Versus State in Assam," in
P. Chatterjee (ed.) *State and Politics in India*. [blackboard]
Video: *Kashmir: A Valley of Despair* (AV: 89496)
Rec: An interview with Baruah [blackboard]

Week Twelve: 1990's: India's

T, Nov.14: Topic: Hindu Nationalism
Metcalf&Metcalf, pp. 260-295.
REaton, "Temple Desecration and the Indo Muslim States," in
Frontline, January 5, 2001. [blackboard].

Th, Nov.16: Topic: Politics of a Hindu Majority
K. Mohiuddin, *Birthmark* [blackboard]
T. Blom Hansen, *The Saffron Wave*, pp. 154-199.
Rec: Essays on Blackboard from SSRC (Gujarat) & Onlinevolunteers.org.

THANKSGIVING RECESS
No classes on Nov.21 and Nov.23

Week Thirteen: New Social Movements

T, Nov.28: Topic: Development and Environment
A. Roy, "Greater Common Good," in *The Cost of Living*.
Video: *Dam/Age: A Film with Arundhati Roy* (AV:11481)

Th, Nov.30: Topic: Caste and Indian Politics
Hay, Dr. Ambedkar's writings, p.TBA
Human Rights Watch, "Broken People" [blackboard]
Video: *Caste at Birth* (AV 87927)

Week Fourteen: Foreign Policy

T, Dec.5: Topic: From Non-Aligned Movement to Regional Power
S. Krishna, "Mimetic Histories: Foreign Policy and the Narration of India," in *Postcolonial Insecurities: India, Sri Lanka, and the Question of Nationhood*, pp.3-30.

Th, Dec.7: Topic: Nuclear Politics
Arundhati Roy, "End of Imagination," in *The Cost of Living*.
Amitav Ghosh, "Countdown in South Asia," in *The New Yorker Magazine* (Oct, 1998) [blackboard]
J. Singh, *Against Nuclear Apartheid* [blackboard]

Week Fifteen: Global India

T, Dec. 12: H. Muppidi, *Politics of the Global*, pp. TBA
The Rise of India, *Foreign Affairs* (July 2006) [blackboard]
Video: *Emerging Powers: India* (AV: 86328)

Th, Dec. 14: Final Day: Summation