THE MAKING OF MODERN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

508:230 Fall 2020
Instructor: Julia Stephens
(julia.stephens@rutgers.edu)
Office Hours: Thursdays 11:30-12:50 or by appointment (via Zoom)
NOTE: This course fulfills the SAS Core Area HST, Goal L (Employ historical reasoning to study human endeavors, using appropriate assumptions, methods, evidence, and arguments.)

Note on Class Meetings and Mode of Instruction, Fall 2020
The lecture content for this course will available online, in an asynchronous format which students can complete on their own schedule. Students will be required to attend online, synchronous lab sessions during weeks 3, 6, 9, and 12. They will be assigned to either a Monday or Thursday time slot, both of which will meet from 11:30am to 12:50pm via Zoom. Students who cannot attend one of these time slots but who wish to take the course, including international students who are studying from a different time zone, should contact the instructor for an alternative arrangement.

Introduction
This course is an introduction to the history of India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, home today to over a billion and a half people. The course will cover the period from the advent of the Mughal Empire in the sixteenth century, through the history of British colonial rule, the struggle for independence, and the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947. Course materials include a wide variety of secondary and primary historical texts, maps, podcasts, artwork, and films. Assignments and discussions will highlight connections between historical arguments and contemporary debates in South Asia about democracy, secularism, and economic development.

Spanning the rise and fall of two empires and the creation of post-colonial nations, lectures and readings will explore how political and economic change in South Asia has shaped its diverse cultural heritage. The course begins by exploring how the Mughals governed India’s numerous religious, linguistic, and regional populations. The decentralization of the Mughal state in the eighteenth century paved the way for the formation of new regional states and the expanding influence of the British East India Company. As the British consolidated their control over the subcontinent during the nineteenth century, they harnessed the region’s economy to circuits of colonial capitalism that continue to shape patterns of production, labor, and profit today.

The latter half of the course explores the rise of anti-colonial and nationalist movements, tracing their complex intersection with gender, religion, and caste. The course explores how Gandhian politics co-existed with competing visions of India’s struggle for independence, including calls for greater minority representation and more violent modes of protest. Students will be asked to grapple with the human experience of the violent partition of the subcontinent in 1947 by engaging with fiction and film. In the final weeks of the class the course turns to post-colonial and contemporary developments, including the creation of Bangladesh, the Emergency, the liberalization of the Indian economy in the 1990s, religious nationalism, and terrorism.
Course Materials

I recommend that you purchase the textbook *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy*. The page numbers listed in the syllabus are for the 4th edition, but you can find used copies of the 2nd and 3rd edition at a significant discount (approximately $10 with shipping). If you use an older edition, you should follow the chapter numbers listed in the syllabus, not the page numbers. For students who are having difficulty accessing the textbook due to the cost of purchase, please contact the professor for alternative arrangements. All other course materials will be available via Canvas.

Course Requirements and Grading:

**Participation Log (10%).** Students will be responsible for keeping a log of their participation in the course and submitting it at the end of the semester. Students can earn participation points by attending online office hours, posting news stories to the course discussion, and watching outside films. Detailed instructions on how to complete these activities and submit a log are available on Canvas.

**Quizzes (8 x 6 pts = 48%).** The primary mode of assessment in this class will be regular, open-book quizzes that you will complete after reviewing course materials. Each quiz is worth six points towards your final grade. There are nine quizzes total, but the lowest grade will be dropped. Quizzes will include multiple-choice questions and short-answer reflections. All quizzes are due Friday by midnight for the week in which they are assigned.

**History Labs (4 x 5 pts = 20%).** Over the course of the semester students will be required to complete four synchronous lab sessions. In order to receive full credit for a lab, you must complete the prep work for the lab, participate in the lab discussion, and submit all associated activities. Students who cannot attend these synchronous sessions should contact the professor for alternative arrangements.

**Final Project (22%):** The final project (approximately 1200 words) will link the historical material we have studied in the course to contemporary events in South Asia. While you may discuss the project with your peers, the work you submit must be entirely your own. Cases of plagiarism will be handled according to university policy.

Policy on Late Assignments: From past experience, I know that student success in this course is closely tied to keeping to the course schedule. I therefore expect you to turn in assignment on time and will deduct one point for each day that an assignment is late. For example, if you turn in a quiz one day late, your score will be reduced by one point out of a total of six possible points. I also understand that students’ lives are complicated, and you may encounter unexpected difficulties during the semester. In these cases, I will happily work with you to make alternative arrangements that allow you to complete course work in a timely manner.

Additional policies and resources are listed at the end of the syllabus.

NOTE: This syllabus is a working draft; I may make occasional revisions to the course in response to student interest or current events.
Class Schedule

UNIT 1.

Week 1 (Sept 3): Introduction

Meeting 1: Lecture, Course Introduction

Week 2 (Sept 7-10): The Mughal Empire

Meeting 1: Lecture, The Mughal Empire
READING: Modern South Asia, chapter 4, pp. 31-41.
PODCAST: “Akbar: The World and the Bridge”
Meeting 2: Lecture, Why do the Mughals matter for the present?
WEEKLY QUIZ 1

Week 3 (Sept 14-17): Mughal Art

LAB PREP: View the Mughal manuscripts and paintings via the Canvas viewing guide.
HISTORY LAB 1: Mughal Painting. All students will be assigned to attend either a Monday or Thursday lab session from 11:30-12:50 via Zoom.

Week 4 (Sept 21-24): The 18th Century

Meeting 1: Lecture, Crisis at the Center and the Rise of Regional States
READING: Modern South Asia, chapter 5, pp. 42-57.
PODCAST: “Shivaji: Dreaming Big”
Meeting 2: Lecture, East India Company Rule
Modern South Asia, chapter 6-8, pp. 58-76.
PODCAST: “William Jones: The Enlightenment Moghul”
WEEKLY QUIZ 2

UNIT 2.

Week 5 (Sept 28-Oct 1): Different Approaches to Governing Difference

Meeting 1: Lecture, Orientalism and Re-inventing Tradition
READING: Durba Ghosh, “Who Counts as ‘Native’?”
Meeting 2: Lecture, Anglicism and Reform
PODCAST: “Rammohan Roy: Humanity in General”
WEEKLY QUIZ 3

Week 6 (Oct 5-8): Abolishing Sati – Humanist Reform or Colonial Interference?

LAB PREP: Read the primary-text packet, available via Canvas.
HISTORY LAB 2: Debating with Sati Primary Texts

Week 7 (Oct 12-15): From Company to Crown

Meeting 1: Lecture, Rebellion!
READING: *Modern South Asia*, chapter 9, pp. 77-84.
PODCAST: “Lakshmibai, Rani of Jhansi: Badass Queen”

**Meeting 2: Lecture, Crown Rule and Indenture**

**WEEKLY QUIZ 4**

**UNIT 3.**

**Week 8 (Oct 19-22): Nationalism and Its Alternatives**

**Meeting 1: Lecture, Reform, Revival, and Swadeshi Nationalism**
READING: *Modern South Asia*, chapter 11, pp. 95-111.
PODCAST: “Chidambaram Pillai: Swadeshi Steam”

**Meeting 2: Lecture, Gandhi and his Alternatives**
READING: *Modern South Asia*, chapter 12 & 13, pp. 112-130.
PODCAST: “Gandhi: In the Palm of Our Hands” AND “Subhas Chandra Bose: A Touch of the Abnormal”

**WEEKLY QUIZ 5**

**Week 9 (Oct 26-29): Caste, Past and Present**

LAB PREP: Listen to the podcast “Bhimrao Ambedkar: Building Palaces on Dung Heaps” and read the packet of news coverage on caste in India today.

**HISTORY LAB 3: Linking History to the News**

**Week 10 (Nov 2-5): “Exploding Communalism”**

**Meeting 1: Lecture, Muslims and So-Called “Communalism”**
READING: *Modern South Asia*, chapter 14, pp. 131-139.

**Meeting 2: Lecture, The Pakistan Demand**
PODCAST: “Jinnah: The Chess Player”

**WEEKLY QUIZ 6**

**UNIT 4.**

**Week 11 (Nov 9-12): Freedom at Midnight**

**Meeting 2 (Nov 8): Lecture, The Unwinding of Empire**

**Meeting 1 (Nov 13): Lecture, August 1947 -- Jubilation and Despair**
ORAL INTERVIEWS: Listen to the four interviews posted on Canvas

**WEEKLY QUIZ 7**

**Week 12 (Nov 16-19): Fiction, Film, and Historical Memory**

LAB PREP: Before your lab session, watch the film *Earth*, which is linked on Canvas.

**HISTORY LAB 4: Thinking Through Partition Violence with *Earth***
THANKSGIVING WEEK – NO CLASS

Week 13 (Nov 30-Dec 3): Forging Post-Colonial Futures

Meeting 1: Lecture, State Centralization and Popular Dissent in India and Pakistan

Meeting 2: Lecture, States at the Brink – The Bangladesh War and The Emergency
PODCAST: “Indira Gandhi: The Centre of Everything”

WEEKLY QUIZ 8

Week 14 (Dec 7-10): Religion and Politics in India and Pakistan

Meeting 1: Lecture, The Rise of Hindutva and Islamism in India and Pakistan

Meeting 2: Watch “The World Before Her” (90 min., available for free with ads on Tubi and Vudu, or for purchase on Amazon Prime or iTunes); or “Among the Believers” (84 min., available for free via Rutgers’ Kanopy subscription) and post to the Discussion board, which will take the place of WEEKLY QUIZ 9

FINAL PROJECTS DUE MONDAY DECEMBER 14
Additional Policies and Resources.

**Grade Cutoffs.**

- **A** = 90 - 100
- **B+** = 85 - 89
- **B** = 80 - 84
- **C+** = 75 - 79
- **C** = 70 - 74
- **D** = 60 - 69
- **F** = 0 - 59

**Classroom etiquette and electronic devices.** I seek to cultivate an active learning environment. This means that you are expected not only to attend class but to participate. This includes active individual participation (commenting, asking questions, etc.) and collaborative participation, which includes listening respectively to the opinions of others. You may use electronic devices to take notes, but non-academic use of phones, laptops, etc. disturbs your own and others’ learning. I reserve the right to ask students to leave class if their use of devices is disruptive and will mark you absent for the day if such a case arises.

**Academic Integrity.** Our common learning environment requires that we all respect principals of academic integrity. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, and or sabotaging the academic work of other. I will give clear instructions about what forms of collaboration are or are not allowed with respect to papers and exams. If you have any questions about these requirements, you must ask me for clarification—do not guess whether or not something constitute plagiarism or cheating! For full details about the universities policies, see [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/)

**Student Disabilities.** All disabilities will be accommodated according to recommendations issued by the Rutgers Office of Disability Services. Please let me know about any needs at the beginning of the semester so we can work together to facilitate the logistics.

**Student Wellness Resources.** There is a list of important on-campus resources below. I strongly encourage you to use these resources, and I am happy to discuss academic accommodations when needed.

**Just In Case Web App**

[http://codu.co/cee05e](http://codu.co/cee05e)

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

**Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**


CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students’ efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

**Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)**

**(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu)**
The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

**Disability Services**
(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / [https://ods.rutgers.edu/](https://ods.rutgers.edu/)
Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines). If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form).

**Scarlet Listeners**
(732) 247-5555 / [https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scarletlisteners](https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scarletlisteners)
Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

Additional Policies and Resources.

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(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/
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