

Syllabus History 142, 4 credits

HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA TO THE PRESENT

FALL 2007-2008

4:00-5:15 TR 1641 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: Nick Abbott

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 October 23 ; take home essay question November 1 ; hand in essay November 15; final exam December 17, 7:45 AM

Lecture 1: September 4

Introduction

Lecture 2: September 6

The ecological setting

Read: pp. ix-xii, 1-12

Lecture 3: September 11

Geography and history

Lecture 4: September 13

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: September 18

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

Read: chapter 4 (pp. 35-52)

Lecture 6: September 20

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

Read: chapter 5 (pp. 53-67)

Lecture 7: September 25

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

Read: chapter 6 (pp. 68-85)

Lecture 8: September 27

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: October 2

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

Read: chapter 8, pp. 105-107

Lecture 10: October 4

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

Read: chapter 8, pp. 107-125

Lecture 11: October 9

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

Read: chapter 9 (pp. 126-134)

Lecture 12: October 11

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

Read: chapter 10 (pp. 135-147)

Lecture 13: October 16

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: October 18

STUDY GUIDE

October 23

MID-TERM EXAM

Lecture 15: October 25

India between empires: the eighteenth century

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

Lecture 16: October 30

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

Read: chapter 14 (pp. 200-223)

Lecture 17: November 1

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

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

Lecture 18: November 6

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

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

Lecture 19: November 8

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

Lecture 20: November 13

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: November 15

Toward independence (1920-1939 A. D.)

Read: chapter 21 (pp. 301-329)

Lecture 22: November 20

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

Lecture 23: November 27

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

Read: chapter 22 (pp. 330-353)

Lecture 24: November 29

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

Read: chapter 23 (pp. 354-373)

Lecture 25: December 4

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

Read: chapter 24 (pp. 374-406)

Lecture 26: December 6

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

Read: chapter 25 (pp. 407-450)

Lecture 27: December 11

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

Read: chapter 26 (pp. 451-470)

Lecture 28: December 13

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

STUDY GUIDE