

Course Title	: INTRODUCTION TO SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY
Course Code	: HST2264
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Sectional
Class Contact Hours	: 3 hours per week
Category of Major Prog.	: Elective
Prerequisite(s)	: None
Co-Requisite(s)	: None
Exclusion(s)	: None

Brief Course Description

India is the world's largest democracy and a major player in the international software industry. It is also home to one of the oldest living civilizations in the world. This course introduces students to the pattern of Indian history from the earliest times to the present. It will focus on: 1. the development of distinctively Indian forms of socio-economic, political, and religious patterns; 2. Hindu-Muslim syncretism and conflict; 3. the ordeal of colonialism and the rise of nationalism; and 4. independent India and its future prospects.

Aims

Students taking this course will gain a better understanding of India, its civilization, and culture. It is hoped that through this, greater Sino-Indian awareness will develop. A basic understanding of India and South Asia will be an important asset for anyone interested in future Asian trends.

Learning Outcomes

- 1) Familiarity with the histories and cultures of South Asia.
- 2) Improved critical reading and analytical skills
- 3) Improved English-language writing ability

Indicative Content

- I. The Meaning of India and South Asia
- II. Ancient India
 - A. The Indus Civilization
 - B. The Aryans and Vedic Culture
 - C. Polities in the Epic Age
 - D. Hinduism and its heterodoxies: Buddhism and Jainism
 - E. The Mauryas and their Empire
 - F. The Gupta Classical Pattern
 - G. The Classical Pattern in Southern India
- III. Medieval India
 - A. Medieval Kingdoms and Regionalization
 - B. Southern Indian Kingdoms and Empires
 - C. Islam in India and India in Islam
 - D. Vijayanagara
 - E. The State and the Community
- IV. Early-Modern India
 - A. The Mughal Empire: its Rise
 - B. Mughal Problems

- C. The Marathas and the Sikhs
- D. Seaborne Dangers: the Europeans
- V. The English East India Company
 - A. Origins
 - B. From Trading Power to Successor State
 - C. Structures of Company Rule
 - D. 1857
- VI. The British *Raj*
 - A. Structure
 - B. Political Economy
 - C. Education and Cultural change
 - D. The Politicization of Indian Society
- VII. The Freedom Struggle
 - A. Nationalisms in South Asia
 - B. The Early Congress
 - C. Gandhi and *Satyagraha*
 - D. Patterns of Constitutional Change
 - E. Gandhi's Adversaries: Bose and Jinnah
 - F. Pakistan and Partition
- VIII. Post-Colonial Developments
 - A. Indian Democracy
 - B. Pakistani Authoritarianism
 - C. Economies and the Environment
 - D. The Communal Curse
 - E. Women in Contemporary South Asia
 - F. Future Prospects
 - G. Gandhian Legacies?

Teaching Method

The methodology for this course will consist of class lectures and discussions.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1 will be assessed through written assignments and tests. Outcomes 2 and 3 will be developed and assessed through the short essays, term paper, handouts, in-class exercises and the essay sections of the midterm and final exam.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment: 65%
 Quizzes: 20
 Research Paper: 30%
 Attendance and participation: 15%
 Examination: 35%

Required Readings

Kulke, H. & Rothermund, D., *A History of India*, 3rd ed. London: Routledge, 1998
 Buckley R.N., *I Hanuman: a Novel of 1857*, Kolkata: Writers' Workshop, 2003
 Harris, M., "Mother Cow", in Harris, M., *Cows, Pigs, Wars, and Witches: the Riddles of Culture*, New York: Vintage Books, 1974

Supplementary Readings

- Basham, A.L., *The Wonder that was India: a Survey of the Culture of the Indian Sub-Continent before the Coming of the Muslims*, New York: Grove, 1959
- Bayly, C.A., *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990
- Bayly, S., *Caste, Society, and Politics in India from the Eighteenth Century to the Present*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999
- Brown, J.M., *Modern India: the Origins of an Asian Democracy*, 2nd ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994
- Cohen, S.P., *The Indian Army: its Contribution to the Development of a Nation*, 2nd ed., Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1990
- Embree, A.T., ed. & rev., *Sources of Indian Tradition, Vol. I: from the Beginning to 1800*, 2nd ed., New York: Columbia University Press, 1988
- Forbes, G., *Women in Modern India*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996
- Gandhi, M.K., *The Moral and Political Writings of Mahatma Gandhi*, ed. Iyer, R., 3 vols., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1986
- Gordon, S., *The Marathas, 1600-1818*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993
- Guha, R., et. al., eds., *Subaltern Studies: Writings on South Asian History and Society*, vols. 1-10, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1982-
- Gupta, P.S. & Deshpande, A., eds, *The British Raj and its Indian Armed Forces, 1857-1939*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002
- Hardiman, D., *Gandhi in His Time and Ours: the Global Legacy of his Ideas*, London: Hurst, 2003
- Hay, S., ed. & rev., *Sources Of Indian Tradition, Vol. II: Modern India and Pakistan*, 2nd ed., New York: Columbia University Press, 1988
- Inden, R., *Imagining India*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2000
- Jalal, A., *Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia: a Comparative and Historical Perspective*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995
- Kulke, H., ed., *The State in India, 1000-1700*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1995
- Liu, X., *Ancient India and Ancient China: Trade and Religious Exchanges, AD 1-600*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988
- Mabbett, I.W., "The Indianization of South East Asia", *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 8, 1977
- Metcalf, B & T.R., *A Concise History of India*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002
- Metcalf, T.R., *Ideologies of the Raj*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994
- Nehru, J., *The Discovery of India*, abr., by Narasimhaiah, C., New Delhi: Indian Council for Cultural Relations, 1976
- Nilakanta Sastri, K.A., *A History of South India: from Prehistoric Times to the Fall of Vijayanagara*, 4th ed., Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1975
- Richards, J.F., *The Mughal Empire*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995
- Rudolph, L., *The Modernity of Tradition*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1967
- Schmidt, K.J., *An Atlas and Survey of South Asian History*, Armonk: M.E. Sharpe, 1995
- Stokes, E.T., *The Peasant Armed: the Rebellion of 1857*, ed. C.A. Bayly, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986
- Sundaram, C.S., "Warfare--South Asia" in W.H. McNeill et. al., eds., *Berkshire Encyclopedia of World History*, Great Barrington: Berkshire Publishing Group, 2005, vol. 5, pp. 1991-1996
- Thapar, R., *Early India: from the Origins to AD 1300*, London: Allen Lane, 2002
- Tomlinson, B.R., *The Economy of Modern India, 1860-1960*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993

Important Notes:

(1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.

(2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.

(3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.

(4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.