



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

**HIST 228: Special Topic: Histories of Modern India
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2, 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: In-class test, 15 October 2015

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday 11.00–11.50 am

Thursday 11.00–11.50 am

Venue: Alan MacDiarmid (AM)LT102

Tutorials: Please see the Academic Timetable 2015

www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Ben Kingsbury

Room No: OK 426

Phone: 463 6760

Email: ben.kingsbury@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Thursday 12.00–1.00 pm

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course introduces students to the history of modern India, its peoples and political movements.

Course content

Though it will deal primarily with India under British rule, this course will begin with a brief discussion of the pre-colonial society and political system, which underwent significant change as the result of colonial domination that lasted from the mid-18th to the mid-20th century. We will discuss how colonial rule was established and how over time its character changed. We will examine, with reference to the question of modernisation, the various social and economic developments of the period. We will consider the emergence of Indian nationalism and its strengths and weaknesses in confronting the British. And we will look at how these historical developments have influenced the trajectory of the independent Indian nation.

Our main purpose will be to understand how an Asian society, with established political and cultural traditions, but also with many internal divisions, responded to European political domination as well as to cultural and intellectual influences.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing this course should be able to:

1. Understand some of the cultural traditions of India and its social diversities.
2. Analyse the process of nation-building and the roots of India's present-day political problems.
3. Comprehend how, in general, European colonialism functioned in an Asian society.
4. Identify how such societies were transformed as a result of their encounter with Western modernity.
5. Evaluate some of the existing historical debates about colonialism and nationalism.

Teaching format

Students enrolled in HIST 228 are expected to attend two one-hour lectures each week and participate in a one-hour tutorial. The course consists of 23 lectures in total and 10 weekly tutorials.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Attend at least seven tutorials. In case of illness, this requirement will be waived if a medical certificate is provided.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester, approximately 13 hours a week across the trimester. This total includes the following:

- weekly attendance at lectures: 24 hours
- weekly attendance at tutorials: 10 hours
- completion of all set weekly readings for tutorials: 34 hours
- research and writing for assessment tasks: 116 hours
- preparation for the class test: 16 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	2000 word essay	30%	1–5	21 August
2	3000 word essay	45%	1–5	2 October
3	Class test, 50 minutes	25%	1–5	15 October

Marking criteria

Marking for assignments 1 and 2 will take into account your writing skills, ability to present a coherent argument by using an array of secondary and primary sources, and your ability to use proper referencing techniques.

There is no need for referencing in the class test, which will assess your overall understanding of the content of the course, your analytical skill, and your ability to construct an argument.

Submission and return of work

Submission: All work submitted for assessment must be dropped off in HARD COPY at the History Office in the slots provided with an essay cover sheet. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin).

Graded essays will be returned to you in tutorials in the first instance, and then returned to the History Office, OK 405, where they can be collected between the hours of 1.00–2.00 pm, Monday to Friday. We will notify students via Blackboard when graded essays are available (generally between 2–3 weeks after the date submitted).

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions may only be granted in exceptional circumstances, but **all extensions require the student to provide documentation**. If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your course coordinator/tutor as soon as a problem emerges. Extension forms are available from the History Programme office.

Penalties

History Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. Students lose 5% for the first day late and 2% thereafter for a maximum of 10 working days. After 10 days, work can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked.

Set texts

A book of readings for HIST 228 will be available from Vic Books. Please see their website: www.vicbooks.co.nz for details on buying Books of Readings. We will advise enrolled students via Blackboard when the Book of Readings is available to purchase.

Recommended reading

It is advised that you read one of the following survey texts on modern Indian history at the beginning of the course:

Sekhar Bandyopadhyay, *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India* (New Delhi, 2015). [There is also an earlier edition of this text, *From Plassey to Partition: A History of Modern India* (New Delhi, 2004).]

Geraldine Forbes, *Women in Modern India* (Cambridge, 1996).

John Keay, *India: A History* (London, 2000).

Barbara D. Metcalf and Thomas R. Metcalf, *A Concise History of Modern India* (Cambridge, 2001).

Sumit Sarkar, *Modern India, 1885–1947* (Delhi, 1983).

Burton Stein, *A History of India* (New Delhi, 1998).

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

As this is a new course there is no previous student feedback.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Lecture programme

Week 1:

1. 14 July Introduction
2. 16 July The Decline of the Mughal Empire

Week 2:

3. 21 July The Expansion of the East India Company
4. 23 July The Consolidation of British Rule

Week 3:

5. 28 July Religious Reform
6. 30 July Women and Social Reform

Week 4:

7. 4 August Peasant and Tribal Uprisings
8. 6 August The Revolt of 1857

Week 5:

9. 11 August The Economic Impact of Colonial Rule
10. 13 August Environmental Change

Week 6:

11. 18 August The Emergence of Indian Nationalism
12. 20 August Hindu Revivalism and Politics

Mid-trimester break

Week 7:

13. 8 September Muslim Politics and the Muslim League
14. 10 September The Arrival of Mahatma Gandhi

Week 8:

15. 15 September Gandhian Mass Movements
16. 17 September Non-Brahmin and Dalit Protest

Week 9:

17. 22 September Women's Participation
18. 24 September Business and the Working Class

Week 10:

19. 29 September Partition and Independence
20. 1 October Nehru's India

Week 11:

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| 21. | 6 October | The Decline of the 'Congress System' |
| 22. | 8 October | The Rise of Hindu Nationalism |

Week 12:

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| 23. | 13 October | Enduring Themes and New Pressures |
| 24. | 15 October | Class Test |

Tutorial programme

Discussion of Readings: The format of the discussion will be flexible. Students are expected to read one of the survey texts on modern Indian history, listed above, at the beginning of the tutorial programme, as this will provide necessary background information for understanding the more specialised readings prescribed for the tutorials. Discussion will focus on the main arguments and theoretical issues raised in the prescribed readings.

Week 1: No tutorial**Week 2: India in the 18th Century**

- Partha Chatterjee, 'Outrage in Calcutta', in *The Black Hole of Empire: History of a Global Practice of Power* (Ranikhet, 2012), pp. 1–32.

Week 3: The British Empire in India

- Nirad C. Chaudhuri, 'England', in *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian* (Berkeley, 1968), pp. 97–124.

Week 4: Reform and Social Change

- Tarabai Shinde, 'A Comparison Between Women and Men', in Rosalind O'Hanlon, *Tarabai Shinde and the Critique of Gender Relations in Colonial India* (Madras, 1994), pp. 72–77, 97–111.

Week 5: Revolt and Resistance

- Gautam Bhadra, 'Four Rebels of Eighteen-Fifty-Seven', in Ranajit Guha (ed.), *Subaltern Studies IV: Writings on South Asian History and Society* (New Delhi, 1985), pp. 229–230, 245–275.

Week 6: Environmental Change

- Ramachandra Guha, 'Scientific Forestry and Social Change', in *The Unquiet Woods: Ecological Change and Peasant Resistance in the Himalaya* (New Delhi, 1989), pp. 35–61.

Week 7: Religion and Politics

- John R. McLane, 'Cow Protection and Nationalist Politics', in *Indian Nationalism and the Early Congress* (Princeton, 1977), pp. 271–308.

Week 8: Gandhian Movements

- Shahid Amin, 'Waiting for the Mahatma', in Sekhar Bandyopadhyay (ed.), *Nationalist Movement in India: A Reader* (New Delhi, 2009), pp. 66–78.

Week 9: Caste Protest

- M. K. Gandhi, Sant Ram, and B. R. Ambedkar, 'The Ambedkar-Gandhi Debate', in *Annihilation of Caste* (New Delhi, 2014), pp. 319–356.

Week 10: Partition

- Urvashi Butalia, 'Children', in *The Other Side of Silence: Voices From the Partition of India* (New Delhi, 1998), pp. 246–287.

Week 11: Independent India

- Ramachandra Guha, 'The Biggest Gamble in History', in *India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy* (Basingstoke, 2008), pp. 127–150.

Week 12: No tutorial