Communities and Conflict in India
Soc 268 (Fulfills M5 requirement)
Fridays, 10:20-12:20; PPHAC 116

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PPHAC 316
Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 8:30-9:30 & 1:00-2:00; Fridays 8:30-9:30; Other
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Course Overview: The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the social complexity of modern India. We will pay particular attention to the Indian experience of modernity. We will look at the historical, political, cultural and social forces that have shaped Indian modernity and how these have shaped the uniqueness of the Indian experience. The experience and effects of colonialism, nationalism, and globalization are central to the Indian experience. We will look at how these forces, and others, have constituted India as a country composed of different communities, commonly understood through the trope of 'unity in diversity'.

In order to develop a thorough understanding of the different forces that have shaped the experiences of different communities, we will employ a variety of types of sources. Historical and social scientific works will provide the academic and analytic foundations for this course. Literature, cinema, public debates, journalism, political reports and pamphlets will be utilized as social texts providing insight into the experiences of different communities.

Assignments and Expectations: First and foremost, students are expected to demonstrate a sustained effort at understanding Indian society and culture. This entails reading (and re-reading) assigned texts, participating in class presentations and discussion, and preparing thoughtful and well written assignments. Course time will be divided between lecture, seminar discussions, small group work and presentations. All students will be responsible for participating in discussions, presenting material to the class, completing regular assignments, preparing three short essays, and completing a final project and final exam.

Grading:
Weekly Reading Notes	10%
Class Preparedness and Participation	20%
This includes Assignments and Unannounced Quizzes	
Two Short Essays	20% (10% each)
Final Group Research Presentation	20%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Final Exam	20%

Texts: The following texts are required, and can be purchased through the Moravian College Bookstore.

Watson, Francis. 1974 & 1979. *India: A Concise History*. Thames and Hudson.
Mehta, Suketu. 2004. *Maximum City: Bombay Lost and Found*. Vintage
Roy, Arundhati. 1997. *The God of Small Things*. Harper Perennial.

These texts will form the basis of our inquiry, but will be supplemented by many others. Additional texts will be placed on reserve, posted via blackboard, or distributed in class.

For background information on India, consult the following.
The CIA world fact book on India:
http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/in.html
World Bank's India at a glance:
http://www.worldbank.org/data/countrydata/aag/ind_aag.pdf
United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Human Development Report, excerpts on India and South Asia:
http://www.undp.org.in/hdr2004/India_SouthAsiaExtrts.PDF
Prof. Tim Lubin of Washington and Lee University has compiled an extensive list of web links on South Asia:
http://home.wlu.edu/~lubint/Links.htm
India: A Country Study from the Library of Congress is quite thorough:
http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/intoc.html

Course Schedule
Please note, the outline below is merely a guide. Changes are possible as the semester progresses.

Week 1 (January 19) **Introduction to India**
Study maps of Asia, South Asia, and India. Basic, but worthwhile, maps can be found at www.mapsofindia.com and
http://worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/asia/in.htm . Historic and academic maps can be found at the Digital South Asia Library (http://dsal.uchicago.edu/maps/index.html) and at Perry-Castañeda Library at the University of Texas
(http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/india.html)

Week 2 (January 26) **History: The Ancient Period**
Watson: chs. 1-6
Study the following timeline:
https://dart.columbia.edu/southasia/timeline/index.html
Explore the Indian History Sourcebook at
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/india/indiasbook.html

Week 3 (February 2) **History: The Modern Period**
Watson chs. 7-10.
Macaulay's Minute on Education:
http://www.english.ucsb.edu/faculty/rraley/research/english/macaulay.html
Tilak's 1907 Address to the Congress:
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1907tilak.html

Gandhi on Home Rule:
http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_2/gandhi.html

Week 4 (February 9) **Making sense of Caste**
    Ambedkar, Bhimrao, *The Annihilation of Caste*
http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/mmt/ambedkar/index.html
    Human Rights Watch report, *Broken People*.
http://www.hrw.org/reports/1999/india/
    Gupta, Dipankar "Hierarchy and Difference: An Introduction"
http://members.tripod.com/~ascjnu/heirarc.html

Week 5 (February 16) **Narrating Differences and Conflicts**
    Roy Chs. 1 – 7
    Essay 1 Due on February 16

Week 6 (February 23) **Narrating Differences and Conflicts, Continued**
    Roy Chs. 8 - 21

Week 7 (March 2) **Religious Conflicts and their Response**
    Human Rights Reports: *We Have No Orders to Save You*:
http://hrw.org/reports/2002/india/
    Politics By Other Means: http://www.hrw.org/reports/1999/indiachr/
    Government of India, The Srikrisna Commission Report.
http://www.sabrang.com/srikrish/sri%20main.htm

Spring Break (March 9) No Class

Week 8 (March 16) **Bombay as a Metaphor for the New India**
    Mehta Part 1

Week 9 (March 23) **Bombay as a Metaphor for the New India**
    Mehta Part 2
    Essay 2 Due on March 23

Week 10 (March 30) **Bombay as a Metaphor for the New India**
    Mehta Part 3

Easter Recess—No Class (April 6)

Week 11 (April 13) **Student Presentations**

Week 12 (April 20) **Student Presentations**

Week 13 (April 27) **Student Presentations**

Final Exam during scheduled exam period.

Essay 1:

Literature – Review of text and how the story of India is portrayed through fiction.

Essay 2: Social Conflict
Movie Review?