

PSCI 3700A
GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF SOUTH ASIA

Class:	Monday 2:35-5:25	Room:	413 SA
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Diversity, rich cultural traditions, rapid change, economic growth, and poverty, are all hallmarks of Asia, one of the most dynamic regions in the world. This course in comparative politics is an introduction to the political systems of South Asia. The political system of each state will be discussed, along with themes which are common to the region as a whole. It is intended that students will gain insights into states and cultures far from Canada, but which increasingly will be part of Canada's future.

Library

Class members should take full advantage of such sources as U.N. documents, journals such as *Asian Survey*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Pacific Affairs*; the annual review issues of the *Asian Survey* and the annual bibliographic issue of the *J.A.S.*. Special student subscription rates are available for most journals. Newspapers and embassy information bulletins from many countries are available also. Quality news magazines are useful as well, such as *Himal*, *Asia Week*, and *India Today*. The Internet offers an ever expanding source of information. For example, as starting points see:

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVL-AsianStudies.html> (Australia National University)

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/libraries/indiv/area/sarai/> (Columbia University's Asian Studies website) This site also has 'E-Books: Full-Text Online Books on South Asia' including such essentials as the Bhagavad Gita..

Students in the class are asked to become knowledgeable about the vocabulary and issues of contemporary South Asia. Readings are available in the assigned texts, and others may be put on reserve, which introduce relevant topics. But students are expected to augment them by individual research, fully utilizing the resources available in Ottawa, including specialized libraries, embassies, and the Internet.

Books and Assigned Reading

Students are expected to purchase Baxter and Malik, *The Politics and Governments of South Asia*, Fifth Edition, Westview Press, 2001. This is an introductory text, and provides a minimal reading list. You are expected to know this text thoroughly. In addition, for more up to date information and an interesting selection of issues, assignments will be made from *Global Studies: India and South Asia, Seventh Edition*, James K. Norton, 2005. Articles not "Assigned" from Norton should be considered "Recommended"; they may be useful as well for essay ideas.

There is a vast array of reading material on South Asia available to you, especially on India. Additional

assigned material may be placed on reserve. Readings may be added (and deleted) during the course of the year. Lectures and readings are complementary, and not necessarily overlapping. The instructor will bring to class attention useful reading material for the curious and for course requirements.

Grading

We cover a number of countries and topics in this third year course in comparative politics and political development. Accordingly you will be assessed on a regular basis throughout the academic term. There will not be a scheduled mid-term or final examination.

The format of the course includes lectures, readings, and frequent class discussions. . The grading system will assess all three aspects of the course. Greatest weight is given to formal written essay material. Alternative testing formats are used, to reward diligence and thoughtfulness. All term work must be completed in order to receive a final mark other than F.

1) Quizzes and Examinations

Twice in the term examinations will be given in class. They may consist of short-answer, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank and 'briefly identify' type questions; and an essay component. The cumulative score of the two examinations will constitute nearly one-half of the course grade. Pop quizzes may be administered at the Professor's discretion.

2) Major Paper

A 12-14 page research essay, worth 50 per cent of the final mark, will be due at the end of the term. The paper must be comparative in nature and scope, though it may focus on a single political system. It is anticipated that authors or sources from South Asia will be used in preparation of the essays. A formal research proposal is required, and the final essay will be based on an approved proposal. At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on the essay. Note: The Department will not accept faxed essays.

3) Class Participation and Presentations

Although it appears the course is a three hour seminar, it is actually a Carleton University 2+1 format (two lecture periods and one T.A. period) compressed into a single time slot. This allows us considerable and welcome flexibility. Guest lectures may be provided.

Marking Summary : Total Weight

One Proposal and Essay	50%	Examinations
Class Examinations	40%	Feb. 06, 2006
Discussion/Discretion	<u>10%</u>	March 20, 2006
	100%	Essay
		Proposal Feb. 13, 2006
		Due April 03 , 2006

Late papers will be penalized a half grade for each day they are overdue i.e. a paper which would have

received a "B" would receive a "B-", a "C+" would become a "C" etc, with the exception of documented medical or family emergencies.

WINTER TERM TIMETABLE

1. January 09 **Introduction**

Course outline and overview, course requirements, marking scheme, books, readings, handouts, class list formation

Land and People: Issues in Development

Required

Students should find material relating to the geographic and demographic bases of the subcontinent. The following source is in the Map Library, (first floor of the main library).

Joseph E. Schwartzberg, ed. *A Historical Atlas of South Asia*, Second edition, Chapter X - Map, Chapter X - Text.

2. January 16 **Legacies**

Required

Text, Baxter & Malik, Chapter One, *The Governance of South Asia Under the British* Norton, p 1-23, map, and overview of South Asia.

3. January 23 **India: Physical Environment and Political Tradition**

Required

Text, Baxter & Malik

2. "Political Culture and Heritage"

3. "Political Institutions and Governmental Processes"

Norton, pp 33-38

4. January 30 **India: The Political Process**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

4. "Political Parties and Political Leaders".

5. "Groups and Multiple Demands on the System"

Norton, pp 38-47; Articles, 5, 7, 11

5. February 06 **India: Problems and Prospects**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

- 6. "Conflict Mediation"
- 7. "Modernization and Development: Problems and Prospects"
"India in 2005", *Asian Survey*, Jan. 2006
Norton, articles 6, 13, 17

FIRST EXAMINATION

[covers all lectures and readings through Feb 06]

- 6. February 13 **Pakistan and Bangladesh: Land, Culture and Historical Tradition**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

- 8. "Political Culture and Heritage "
- 9. "Government Structure"
Norton, article 30
"Pakistan in 2005" in *Asian Survey*, Jan. 2006

PROPOSALS DUE IN CLASS

[Feb 20 **[Study Week: Essay Preparation Time]**

- 7. Feb 27 **Pakistan: Political Processes and Prospects**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

- 10. "Political Parties and Political Leaders"
- 11. "Conflict and Mediation"
- 12. "Policy Issues"
- 13. "Modernization and Development"
Norton article 31

- 8. March 06 **Bangladesh: Political Legacies**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

- 14. "Political Culture and Heritage"
- 15. "Government Institutions"
"Bangladesh in 2005" in *Asian Survey*, Jan. 2006
Norton pp 23-4, 54-57

9. March 13 **Bangladesh: Political Actors and Process**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik

16. "Elections, Parties and Interest Groups"

17. Conflicts and Resolution"

18. "Modernization and Development: Prospects and Problems"

Norton articles 21, 22

10. March 20 **Sri Lanka**

Required

Text, Baxter and Malik , all of part 4.

"Sri Lanka in 2005", *Asian Survey*, Jan. 2006

Norton, pp 24, 78-81, article 40

SECOND EXAMINATION

[covers readings from after the first exam until end of term]

11. March 27 **Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives**

Required

Text, Baxter & Malik

25. "Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives"

Conclusion: "Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia"

Relevant articles, *Asian Survey*, January 2006

Norton, pp 25, 58-70; articles 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 36

Recommended

Jonathan Gregson, *Massacre at the Palace: The Doomed Royal Dynasty of Nepal*

L.E. Rose and M.W. Fisher, *The Politics of Nepal*, pp. 1-32

M. Adeney and W.K. Carr, "The Politics of the Western Indian Ocean Islands", in *The Politics of Western Indian Ocean Islands*, J.M. Ostheimer ed., pp. 149-159

12. **April 03 The International Dimension**

Required

Text, Baxter & Malik

26. South Asia as a Region and in the World System.

Norton articles 1, 2, 3, 15,

PAPERS DUE IN CLASS

Academic Accommodations

For Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class test or CUTV midterm exam**. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 7th, 2005** for fall and fall/winter term courses, and **March 10, 2006** for winter term courses.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, *subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean*.

Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND

(Failure – No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.