

CULTURE, POWER, AND HISTORY IN SOUTH ASIA
ANTH: 4342: TuTh 11:00AM - 12:20PM: UH 09
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Office Hours: Thu 12:30-1:30 pm
& by appointment

Course Objectives: This undergraduate seminar offers an anthropological perspective on contemporary South Asia by building on three interconnected conceptual frameworks: culture, power, and history. This course encourages a critical engagement with the construction of knowledge of South Asia in anthropological scholarship. While being attentive to the dialectic between “area studies” and “theory” this course also offers students an opportunity to reflect, discuss, and analyze material drawn from research on various parts of the subcontinent i.e. India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), and Bhutan.

Course Format: Includes lectures, film screenings, discussions, and team-based in -class exercises. Evaluation will be based on participation, presentations, two essays, and two quizzes. In order to foster **active learning through Team-Based Learning**, the class will be organized in teams. Extra credit for this course will be based on team performance and opportunities to connect with on campus activities. Details will be discussed in the introductory class.

Required Texts:

Mines Diane P. and Sarah Lamb, 2002. *Everyday Life in South Asia*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. 0253215218

Jalal, Ayesha and Sugata Bose, 2004, *Modern South Asia*. New York: Routledge.0415307872

Seizer, Susan. 2004. *Stigmas of the Tamil Stage: An Ethnography of Special Drama Artists in South India*. Durham, NC: Duke. 0822334437

Supplementary links and optional readings will be available electronically on the **course website (W)**: http://webct.uta.edu/SCRIPT/anth4342001sp09/scripts/serve_home

Occasional Handouts on relevant topics will be distributed in class. The discussion board on the course website will be used for posting team questions and related activities.

Requirements and Evaluation

Grades in the course will be assigned according to the following scale:

100-90 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D

Attendance in class is mandatory. You are allowed two unexcused absences during the semester. Any additional unexcused absences will result in the loss of two points for each absence from your final grade for the course. If you will be absent for religious holiday observance, sports activities, or other legitimate reasons, please provide appropriate documentation and make sure I know ahead of time. You are responsible for acquiring class notes and handouts for missed classes.

Class participation is required and expected. We will have regular in-class discussions of course readings, films, and lectures, and all students are expected to contribute to these discussions by reading the assigned material by the due date. Participation counts for 10% of the overall course grade.

Essays, Quizzes, Presentations, and Participation:

Two Essays	= 30 points
Two Quizzes (10 points each)	= 20 points
Team Presentation	= 20 points
Team Review of Presentation	= 20 points
Participation	= 10 points
Total	= 100 points

The Essay will be a 1000 word analytical writing based on a question posted on the course website at least two weeks in advance of the due date.

Quizzes: Multiple-choice, 10 questions based on the course material including lectures and films.

Team presentation will be on a theme with a focus on Gandhi and based on primary research. Details will be discussed in class.

Team Review is a class discussion and anonymous written peer review of team presentations.

Participation includes all in-class activities.

Extra Credit up to **2 percent** of the final grade will be based on bonus points earned from team quizzes. For each quiz the three highest scoring teams will earn bonus points. Extra credit up to **2 percent** of the final grade will be based on on-campus activities related to the course. Details will be discussed in the introductory class.

Assignments must be typed and submitted in class on the due date. Assignments will not be accepted electronically. **Late assignments** will be marked down one point per day late except in cases of legitimate, documented circumstances that prevent you from completing assignments.

Make up Quizzes will only be given in the event of a documented illness or emergency.

Team Based Learning (TBL) requires you to prepare and participate as a team on quizzes discussions, and in-class activities.

Email and the course website will be used as a means of communication with students. If you are unable to access your email or course website then please contact UTA's OIT Help Desk at

(817) 272-2208. You will be responsible for checking your **e-mail and course website** regularly for class work, electronic readings, assignments, discussions, and announcements.

Feedback is an important part of any kind of learning. Without feedback on how well you understand the material it is more difficult for you to make significant progress. During this course you will give me feedback on your learning in informal and formal ways, such as anonymous feedback forms, assignments and exams. I want you to let me know when something we discuss is not clear. This kind of communication will enable me to provide additional information when needed or to explain a concept in different terms.

In addition to feedback on your learning, I will be asking for feedback from you about how my teaching strategies are helping or hindering your learning. This kind of feedback is very important to me as I continually strive to be the best teacher I can be. This feedback will be gathered from anonymous surveys. I encourage you to respond to these surveys so that together we can create an effective teaching and learning environment. I believe Team Based Learning (TBL) to be an effective teaching/learning method. In the present context professional learning skills are valued in every work place and TBL will help you develop these skills. Since I am incorporating TBL as an important component of this course, your anonymous feedback will also help me evaluate this method for teaching cultural anthropology. Your feedback will also help me to consider your suggestions for any improvement in the course format.

Academic Integrity and Scholastic Honesty

Academic integrity and scholastic honesty is expected of all students and applies to all assignments, quizzes, and exams in this course. Policy on cheating—students who violate University rules on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. In the case of the team based assignments collaborative work is expected but the standards of integrity and honesty still apply. Please read all of the information in: <http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/aiwhatconstitutes.html>

Accommodations for Persons with Documented Disabilities

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in University Hall room 102 or call them at (817) 272- 3364.

***Class Etiquette:** Please switch off your cell phones and electronic gadgets in class. Laptops may only be used for taking notes. Professional conduct in class and email is required. No late entries or early exits without Dr. Khanduri’s prior permission. Unprofessional conduct will affect your participation grade.