

SEMESTER – AT – SEA: PLCP 3630: The Politics of India/Pakistan

Discipline: Politics

Semester and year: Spring 2013

Faculty name: Armin Rosencranz

Pre-requisites: none

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore parallel activities in politics, economic development and security in India and Pakistan since 1947, with special focus on this century. We'll cover nationalism, democracy, militarism, religion, energy, environment, and ethnic and regional issues. Finally, we'll examine the competition between India and Pakistan over nuclear arms and Kashmir, its destabilizing effects and possible outcomes. Using online materials and knowledge gained through field trips and lectures in India, class members will prepare team presentations on self-chosen topics, such as Kashmir, the role of women, economic and energy development, Zardari and his challengers, and the role in the region of the US and China.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1. Appreciate the very different post-1947 histories of India and Pakistan.**
- 2. Understand the religious, ethnic and communal divisions within India and Pakistan.**
- 3. Learn about the various social and economic development challenges facing each country.**
- 4. Contrast the leadership of the two countries.**
- 5. Explore the military rivalry between the two countries, focusing on Kashmir, and cross-border insurgency and the nuclear race.**

REQUIRED READING: Patrick French: INDIA: A PORTRAIT (2011), and Pamela Constable, PLAYING WITH FIRE: PAKISTAN AT WAR WITH ITSELF (2011).

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

- 1. French, Intro and Chapter 1 (accelerated history)**
- 2. French, Chapters 2 and 3.**
- 3. French, chapter 4.**
- 4. French, chapter 5.**
- 5. French, chapter 6.**
- 6. French, chapter 7.**
- 7. French, chapter 8.**

8. French, chapter 9.
9. French, chapter 11.
10. French, chapter 12.
11. MIDTERM
12. Team presentations: social and economic issues.
13. Team presentations: Kashmir; India as an Asian Power; India and China; India and the U.S.
14. Team Presentations: the rise of Hindu nationalism in India
15. Team Presentations: the rise of Islamic fundamentalism in Pakistan
16. Constable, Intro and chapter 1.
17. Constable, chapter 2.
18. Constable, chapter 3 and 4.
19. Constable, chapter 5.
20. Constable, chapter 6 and 7.
21. Constable, chapter 8.
22. Constable, chapter 9.
23. Constable, chapter 11 and epilogue
24. FINAL EXAM

FIELD COMPONENT

On March 11, our last day in the port of Cochin (Kerala's largest city), our field lab will have two parts. In the morning, we will have Kerala-focused short panels on the role of women; the character of the different religious communities – Christians (20% of the state's population), Hindus (56%) and Muslims (24%); and the recent Communist governments and their accomplishments. Over lunch we will talk with an expert on Pakistan. In the afternoon we will have a guided tour of Kerala's inland waterways, encountering canals, fishing villages and rice fields. Attendance is mandatory.

Class members will be expected to ask questions of each presenter, take notes on the presenters' main points, supplement these observations with material available on the intranet, and critically assess the main issues in a field report of 1000 words.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Attendance and discussion participation – 20%
Midterm – 20%
team presentations– 20%
field report – 20%
final exam – 20%

REQUIRED TEXTS – see required reading, above

LIBRARY BOOKS (to be provided by the instructor)

1. Bose and Jalal, Modern South Asia (1998)
2. Mehta, Snakes and Ladders (1997)
3. Naipaul, India: A Million Mutinies Now (1990)
4. Rosencranz, Environmental Law and Policy in India (2001)
5. Tharoor, India: From Midnight to the Millennium (1997)