

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Department of Political Science, Public Administration and Nonprofit Management
Comparative Government and Politics, *South Asia*
POLS 3430r, Sec 0, CRN 46685
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2014
MWF 11:00AM-11:50AM, Fletcher Hall 201

Instructor: Vasabjit Banerjee

Office: Fletcher Hall, Room 417-I

Office Hours: Tuesday 11AM to 12PM (noon); Thursday 11AM to 12PM (noon); and, by appointment.

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Course Catalog Description: The study of the governmental structures, processes, and ideologies of different regions of the world, comparing their political, economic, and social policies. May be repeated to focus on different regions of the world. On demand.

Course Objectives: South Asia is a rapidly evolving region with issues centering on ethnicity, religion, language, gender, economic development, democratization, civil wars, terrorism, and even nuclear wars. Scholars have developed insightful theoretical lenses to explain such phenomena. This course simultaneously educates students on two aspects: the social, cultural, institutional, and economic facets that affect South Asian politics; and, the theoretical lenses needed to understand why and how policies are made in the region, as well their effects.

Learning Objectives: This class aims to teach you to discuss and more importantly write knowledgably about social, economic, as well as foreign and economic issues that affect South Asian countries. The assigned readings aim to provide the information and existing theories that you will utilize in the assigned papers. At the same time, my lectures and our in-class discussions aim to increase your grasp of the reading material, in order to help you construct your own insights and hypotheses.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Oberst, Robert C., et al. *Government and Politics in South Asia*. 7th ed.. Westview Press, 2014.

Wadley, Susan Snow, ed.. *South Asia in the World: An Introduction*. M. E. Sharpe, 2014.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. Discussions

Due to the moderate size of the class, you shall be graded on your participation in class, especially on topics and group exercises that may be provided by me. Be-aware that I am judging you regarding your knowledge of the assigned readings for that particular class, how well you connect it with prior readings, and your ability to construct new insights.

2. Attendance

You must endeavor to attend all classes. I do not take attendance, although I reserve the right to do so.

However, there will be four surprise quizzes worth 1/3 of the total points, to reward both preparedness and

attendance. Furthermore, at the end of a thematic set of readings, I shall mention their order of importance for the final exam and the surprise quizzes.

Sickness and family emergencies must be reported prior to a class or within 24 hours of the missed class; proof of cause will be required.

3. Classroom Conduct

Ask yourself, “is my behavior acceptable in a business meeting?” If it is unacceptable there, then it is unacceptable in our class. Unacceptable behavior includes: sleeping in a class or putting one’s head down on the desk, reading newspapers or magazines, doing homework for other classes, using telephones, being on social media, and conducting conversations that interfere with class activities.

4. Assignments

You must do your assigned readings for the classes.

You must appear for the Final Exam.

You must submit the three assigned papers.

These papers must be: typed; in 12-point font size; Times New Roman in font style; double spaced; Page Numbered; with 1-1.25 inch margins; proofread for spelling and grammatical errors; and, stapled.

They must also include, at the top right hand corner of the first page: the student’s name; my name; the course number; assignment title; and the date the assignment is turned in.

Written by: Charles Chaplin

Written for: Vasabjit Banerjee

Course: Comparative Government and Politics, POLS 3430r

Assignment: Paper 1 – “Insert your Title Here”

Date: Month/Day/Year

5. Academic Integrity

“To plagiarize means to take someone else’s words and/or ideas (or patterns of ideas) and to present them to the reader as if they are yours. Plagiarism, then, is an act of stealing.” (From *Plagiarism* in the UTC Students Handbook, Pg. 4-6). This offence will result in an automatic F (or 0 Points) on the particular project, and the docking of a full letter grade at the end of the semester (from A to B, B to C, and so on). It may also result in you failing the course and being reported to the administration. Please consult the online Students Handbook: <<http://www.utc.edu/dean-students/pdfs/academics.pdf>> .

6. Students with Disabilities

Students with visual, hearing, physical, and/or learning disabilities that may require modification of the curriculum, instruction, or assessment should contact me. Modifications and accommodations will be made after the student has presented documentation indicating qualification for services from the Disability Resource Center (Tel.: 425-4006; Room 102, Frist Hall). For more information on students with disabilities, go to their website at: <http://www.utc.edu/Administration/DisabilityResourceCenter>.

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438 or <http://www.utc.edu/Administration/CounselingAndCareerPlanning/>.

EVALUATION:

Class Participation Attendance, Participation, and Preparedness	50 Points
Surprise Quizzes: 25 Points x 4 Papers	100 Points
Paper 1	25 Points
Paper 2	25 Points
Paper 3	50 Points
Final Exams	50 Points
Total	300 Points

REQUIRED PAPERS

During the first four weeks of classes, I shall have a 15 minute module on paper writing. Prior results show that following my instructions and understanding the concepts leads to significant increases in grades for papers.

Paper 1: The Interests of and Threats to a South Asian State (and Society) **Minimum Length: 5 Pages**

First choose one state in South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, or Bhutan). Second, select the top three domestic and/or international interests of that state or society and the top three domestic and/or international threats to these interests.

Subsequently, explain the importance of the selected interests and threats, that is, why they matter more than others. Do empirical research outside of the readings and cite at least four different articles/chapters/books in your paper.

Paper 2: The Top Interest and Threat to the State (and Society) **Minimum Length: 5 Pages**

First, choose the topmost (out of the three you presented in Paper 1) international interest of the state/society you selected and the topmost threat (out of the three you presented in Paper 1). Second, explain how you would resolve this threat: by using one or more domestic and international policies. Again, do research other than the assigned readings and choose at least four different articles/chapters.

Paper 3: Externalities and Complete Paper Submission **Minimum Length: 15 Pages**

First, explain whether and how your chosen solution to the topmost threat to the topmost interest that you chose in Paper 2 affects the two other interests and threats that you selected in Paper 1. The Final Paper must integrate Papers 1

and 2 with 3 into a coherent article. Hint: after your Introduction, your first section should be based on Paper 1, the second section on Paper 2, and the third section on the new query for Paper 3, which will be followed by the Conclusion.

News Sources:

India: The Indian Express: <<http://indianexpress.com>>

India: The Hindu: <<http://www.thehindu.com/>>

India: The Telegraph: <<http://www.telegraphindia.com/>>

Pakistan: The Dawn: <<http://www.dawn.com>>

Pakistan: The News (Jang Group): <<http://www.thenews.com.pk/News.aspx>>

Bangladesh: The Daily Ittefaq: <<http://www.clickittefaq.com/>>

Bangladesh: The Daily Star: <<http://www.clickittefaq.com/>>

Sri Lanka: The Daily Mirror: <<http://www.dailymirror.lk/>> ; The Sunday Times: <<http://sundaytimes.lk/>>

Sri Lanka: The Sunday Observer: <<http://www.sundayobserver.lk>>

Nepal: The Himalayan Times: <<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/>>

Nepal: Republica: < <http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/>>

CLASSES:

Histories Matter – Pre-Colonial and Colonial India

Week 1: August 18, 20, 22

India: Political Culture and Heritage, Pg. 13-42

Pakistan: Political Culture and Heritage, Pg. 151-160

Bangladesh: Political Culture and Heritage, Pg. 245-261

Post-Colonial Institutions

Week 2: August 25, 27, 29

India: State Institutions and Changing Political Dynamics, Pg. 43-83

Pakistan: Constitutional Structure, Pg. 161-180

Bangladesh: Government Institutions, Pg. 262-276

Histories Matter – The Peripheries of Colonial Rule

Week 3: September 1 (Labor Day), 3, 5

Nepal: Political Heritage and Culture, Pg. 399-414

Sri Lanka: Political Heritage and Culture, Pg. 331-343

Sri Lanka: Government Structure, Pg. 344-358

Economies I – Colonial Legacies

Week 4: September 8, 10, 12

Banerjee, Abhijit and Lakshmi Iyer. "History, Institutions, and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India." *The American Economic Review* 95.4 (2005): 1190-1213.

Roy, Tirthankar. "Economic History and Modern India: Redefining the Link." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 16.3 (2002): 109-130.

Economies II – Postcolonial Aspirations

Week 5: September 15, 17, 19

Das, Gurcharan. "The India Model." *Foreign Affairs* July/Aug. (2006).

Sinha, Aseema. "The Changing Political Economy of Federalism in India: A Historical Institutional Approach." *India Review* 3.1 (2004): 25-63.

Economies III – Inequalities and Class Politics

Week 6: September 22, 24, 26

Chatterjee, Partha. "Democracy and Economic Transformation in India." *Economic and Political Weekly* 43.16 (2008): 53-62.

Tudor, Maya. "The Promise of Power: The Origins of Democracy in India and Autocracy in Pakistan." New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013. Chs. 1 and 6 (Pg. 205-212).

Political Parties and Interest Groups I

Week 7: September 29, October 1, 3

SUBMIT PAPER 1: SEPTEMBER 29

India: Ch. 4, Shifting Perspectives about Political Parties and Political Leaders, Pg. 84-114

Pakistan: Ch. 10, Political Parties and Political Leaders, Pg. 181-202

Bangladesh: Ch. 16, Elections, Parties and Interest Groups, Pg. 277-298

Political Parties and Interest Groups II

Week 8: October 6, 8, 10

Sri Lanka: Ch. 21, Political Parties and Interest Groups, Pg. 359

Nepal: Ch. 27, Political Parties, Elections, Leaders, Pg. 435

Identity Politics I: State Institutions

Week 9: October 13, 15, 17

Adeney, Katharine. *Federalism and Ethnic Conflict Regulation in India and Pakistan*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. Ch. 5, Federal Segregation or Multiculturalism? Pg. 83-106. Ch. 6, Federal (In)Stability in India, Pg. 107-136. Ch. 7, Federal (In)stability in Pakistan, Pg. 137-162.

Identity Politics II: Party Politics and Violence

Week 10: October 20 (Fall Break), 22, 24

Jaffrelot, Christophe. "The Rise of the Other Backward Classes in the Hindi Belt." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 59.1 (2000): 86-108.

Wilkinson, Steven. *Votes and Violence: Electoral Competition and Ethnic Riots in India*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004. Ch. 1, The Electoral Incentives for Ethnic Violence, Pg. 1-18

Fearon, James D. and David D. Laitin. "Sons of the Soil, Migrants, and Civil War." *World Development* 39.2 (2011): 199-211.

Gender, Society, and Politics

Week 11: October 27, 29, 31

SUBMIT PAPER 2: OCTOBER 27

SAW: Ch. 9, Wilson, Nicole A.. "Arranging a Marriage in Middle-Class Southern India." Pg. 131-150

SAW: Ch. 11, Khan, Faris A.. "Kwaja Sira: Transgender Activism and Transnationality in Pakistan." Pg. 170-184.

SAW: Ch. 15, Crawford, Mary. "Sex Trafficking in Nepal." Pg. 227-240.

SAW: Wadley, Susan S.. "Likhiya: Painting Women's Lives in Rural Northern India." Pg. 241-260.

Internal Conflicts and State Reactions

Week 12: November 3, 5, 7

Staniland, Paul. "Organizing Insurgency: Networks, Resources, and Rebellion in South Asia." *International Security* 37.1 (2012): 142-177.

Staniland, Paul. "States, Insurgents, and Wartime Political Orders." *Perspectives on Politics* 10.2 (2012): 243-264.

SAW: Ch. 13, Oberst, Robert. "Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka." Pg. 201-214.

SAW: Ch. 14, Basu, Subho and Susan Snow Wadley. "The Federally Administrated Tribal Areas in Pakistan: The Most Dangerous Places in the World?" Pg. 215-226.

Foreign Policies I: within South Asia
Week 13: November 10, 12, 14

Narang, Vipin and Paul Staniland. "Institutions and Worldviews in Indian Foreign Security Policy." *India Review* 11.2 (2012): 76-94.

Kapur, S. Paul and Sumit Ganguly. "The Jihad Paradox: Pakistan and Islamist Militancy in South Asia." *International Security* 37.1 (2012): 111-141.

Chowdhury, Mamta B.. "Trade Reforms and Economic Integration in South Asia." *Applied Econometrics and International Development* 5.4 (2005): 23-40.

Foreign Policies II: with the World
Week 14: November 17, 19, 21

Staniland, Paul.. "Caught in the Muddle: America's Pakistan Strategy." *The Washington Quarterly* 34.1 (2011): 133-148.

Pant, Harsh V.. "The Pakistan Thorn in China-India-US Relations." *The Washington Quarterly* 35.1 (2012): 83-95.

Kapur, S. Paul, Ryan Jacobs, and Ryan French. "U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue." *Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction*. PASC Report Nos. 2014 002.

TBA
Week 15: November 24, 26, 28 (Thanksgiving Break)
SUBMIT FINAL PAPER: NOVEMBER 24

Examination Review
Week 16: December 1

FINAL EXAMINATIONS: Monday, December 8: 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

