

Third World Studies

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Term: Fall 2016
Professor Babak Rahimi
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Office: LIT 324

Course: Third World Studies
Modern Indian Culture and Literature

Section ID: 873889

Lecture Day/Time:
MWF 2-2:50 p.m.

Lecture Location:
Peter 102

Professor Office Hours: M 9-11 a.m. and W 10-11 a.m.

Description of the Course

As a lower-division Third World Studies course, this class will examine cultures and literature of modern (20th and 21st century) India in order to examine how social

inequality, injustice, economic disparity, and questions of cultural, national and postcolonial identity can be understood through cultural and literary texts.

Objectives

The basic goals of the course are as follows:

1. To trace common themes in the relationship between social processes and literature.
2. To foster an alternative understanding of global history and cultures through a Third World Studies paradigm.
3. To engage in the study of non-U.S. cultures and histories.
4. To gain a familiarity with basic theoretical debates on inequality in the Third World.
5. To improve one's writing, critical thinking, and scholastic discussion skills.

Prerequisites

None

Grading

Class attendance and participation 20%

Film reviews 20%

Midterm paper 20%

Final paper 40%

Assignments

Midterm paper: A 1000-word paper (approx. 4 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around), answering one of the four questions that will be provided to you one week in advance. **Please note: 1000 words is the maximum!** Your paper should be analytical and have a clear thesis statement and introduction, a conclusion, and a short bibliography at the end. Pages should be numbered. I will provide more instructions about the midterm paper a week before the due date. Papers should be submitted in hard copy at the beginning of lecture.

Due date: Friday, October 28th

Final paper: A 1500 to 2000 word research paper (approx. 6-8 pages, double-spaced, 1-in. margins all around) on a topic of your choice. The topic must relate to issues, themes, or debates examined in class and should focus on 20th and 21st century India. Papers should be submitted in hard copy to the Student Affairs Assistant in the Department of Literature office (LIT 110). All papers will be time-stamped.

Due: Wednesday, December 7th by 4 p.m.

Extra Credit: There will be a number of opportunities for students to earn extra credit towards your final participation grade in the class (which accounts for 20% of your total grade). I will inform you about extra credit opportunities throughout the quarter.

Film Reviews: Each week, beginning in Week 3, you will be required to write a film review. Reviews should be about 300 to 500 words in length (1-2 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around). Some films we will view together during lecture; others you will be required to watch on your own. In your reviews, you must relate the films to at least one theme or issue from that week's readings, as well as explain your own opinions on the film. Film reviews are **due on Sunday nights at 11:59 p.m. via email, religion101ucsd@gmail.com** NO LATE REVIEWS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

Films: Viewing Schedule (subject to change)

(Many of these films are available online or through the Film and Media desk located in the ground floor at Geisel Library.)

Week 3: Gandhi (1982) (in lecture)

Week 4: Earth (1998) (in lecture)

Week 5: Water (2005) (in lecture)

Week 6: Slumdog Millionaire (2008) (in lecture)

Week 7: Midnight's Children (2012) (in lecture)

Week 8: Fire (1996) (on your own)

Week 9: CHOOSE ONE (1) OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTARIES TO VIEW ON YOUR OWN

Born into Brothels (2004)

India's Daughter (2015)

Gulabi Gang (2012)

Mango Girls (2013)

The Revolutionary Optimists (2013)

Class attendance and participation: Your attendance and participation in lecture and discussion section is required. You are expected to complete all assigned readings and attend each class prepared to express your views, engage in discussions and debates, and demonstrate what you have learned. Please note that ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN IN BOTH LECTURE AND DISCUSSION SECTION! **Only two (2) unexcused absences from discussion section and two (2) unexcused absences from lecture are allowed!** Any subsequent absences (up to 5 absences) will adversely affect your attendance and participation grade. **Please note that per university policy, five (5) or more absences will result in automatic failure of the course.**

Class Policy

Late papers

Late papers will be penalized a quarter letter grade for each day that they are late (from A to A-, B- to C+, C- to D+ and so on). **Papers that are one or more week(s) late will not be accepted.** Please submit your papers in hard copy at the beginning of lecture, *not* via email or fax.

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

There is a **zero-tolerance** policy regarding plagiarism of any kind, including but not limited to cheating, reusing old papers, passing off another's work as your own, purchasing papers, etc. **Remember, ignorance of the policy is never a suitable excuse for violating the policy.**

Consequences for plagiarism, cheating, and academic misconduct can range from a failing grade on the assignment in question, failure of the entire course, or dismissal from the university.

A major part of written assignments for this course will be based on assigned readings and involve other sources. To avoid plagiarism, be sure to provide citations for direct quotations and paraphrases. If you have any questions regarding what constitutes plagiarism, please see the professor. For more on UCSD's policy regarding academic integrity, refer to UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship <http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/policy.html>

Disability Accommodation

If you require disability accommodations, please see the professor on the first day of class.

Readings

It is important for each student to know that this is a literature course, and therefore you are expected to do some major reading of a variety of texts. You will be expected to understand the readings and, for your papers, formulate analytical arguments which use the text as evidence to support your claims.

Required Texts

All books are available at the UCSD bookstore.

1. Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*
2. Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound: The Social and Economic Revolution from Independence to the Global Information Age*
3. Mulk Raj Anand, *Untouchable*
4. Course Reader, available for purchase at:

Cal Copy

3251 Holiday Ct La Jolla CA 92037

858-452-9949

Films are available for viewing at the Film and Media desk in Geisel Library.

NOTE: Films are an invaluable educational resource, providing an effective means of supplementing information from class through a visual platform. Some of the films viewed in this course contain images and scenes of explicit sexuality, graphic violence, and offensive language. Please note that we are viewing these films as mature scholars, and for educational purposes only.

Schedule of Classes

Instruction Days: September 22-December 2

Finals Week: December 3-10

Winter Quarter Ends: December 10

Holidays (No instruction):

Veterans Day: November 11

Thanksgiving Holiday: November 24-25

Week 1

September 23, Friday: Introduction to the course

Week 2 Examining Concepts

September 26, Monday: Discussion of terms: The Third World, the Subaltern, and the Global South

September 28, Wednesday: Imagining India: The Idea of India

Readings: Course Reader,
Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, ix-xix

September 30, Friday: The Unmaking of an Empire

Readings: Course Reader, 5-56

Week 3: In class film viewing: Gandhi

October 3, Monday: Pre-Independence India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 3-15

October 5, Wednesday: Pre-Independence cont'd

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 16-26

October 7, Friday: Pre-Independence cont'd

Readings: Mulk Raj Anand's *Untouchable*, 3-74

Week 4: In class film viewing: Earth

October 10, Monday: India's Road to Freedom

Readings: Course Reader, 57-94

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 1

(Begin reading Rushdie's novel: lectures on the novel begin Week 5)

October 12, Wednesday: India's Road to Freedom cont'd

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 27-43

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 1

October 14, Friday: India's Road to Freedom cont'd

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 44-68 & 139-154

Mulk Raj Anand's *Untouchable*, 74-139

(Finish reading the novel and begin discussion in Discussion section)

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 1

Week 5: In class film: Water

October 17, Monday: Independence

Reading: Course Reader, 95-107

Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 69-84

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 2

October 19, Wednesday: Independence cont'd

Reading: Course Reader,

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 2

October 21, Friday: Independence cont'd

Reading: Course Reader,

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 2

PICK UP MIDTERM QUESTIONS!

Week 6: In class film: Slumdog Millionaire

October 24, Monday: Independence cont'd

Reading: Course Reader, 107-126

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 3

October 26, Wednesday: Independence cont'd

Readings: Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 3

October 28, Friday: Independence cont'd

Readings: Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 3

MIDTERM ESSAY DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF LECTURE

Week 7: In class viewing: *Midnight's Children*

October 31, Monday: Independence cont'd

Readings: Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, Book 3

November 2, Wednesday: Independence cont'd

Readings: None

November 4, Friday: Independence cont'd

Readings: None

Week 8: In class film: *Fire*

November 7, Monday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 85-99

November 9, Wednesday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 103-122

November 11, Friday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 123-138

Week 9: VIEW FILM ON YOUR OWN (MUST CHOOSE 1 DOCUMENTARY)

November 14, Monday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 155-175

November 16, Wednesday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 176-195

November 18, Friday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 196-243

Week 10 Neoliberal India?

November 21, Monday: Post-Colonial India

Readings: Gurcharan Das, *India Unbound*, 243-364

November 23, Wednesday

No Class

November 25, Friday

No Class

Week 11 Diaspora India

November 28, Monday: Diaspora

Reading: Course Reader, 127 to end

November 30, Wednesday: Diaspora

Reading: Course Reader, 127 to end

December 2, Friday: Concluding remarks

Reading: None

Wednesday, December 7 at 4 p.m.

**Submit your final papers in hardcopy at the Literature Dept.
(LIT 110)**

(please note the office will close between 4:15 and 4:30 p.m.)