

HISTORY 312: GANDHI'S INDIA

Instructor: SANJAY JOSHI

**Office Hours: Tu-Thu 11:30-12:30,
and by appointment**

Office: LA 206

Phone: 523-6216

E-mail: Sanjay.Joshi@nau.edu

Class Meetings: TU, THU 12:45-2:00

Web Page: <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~sj6/>

Location: LA 200

A Liberal Studies Course in the *Social and Political Worlds* Block. Also Fulfills the NAU Global Diversity Requirement.

A COPY OF THIS SYLLABUS WILL ALSO BE FOUND ON MY WEB PAGE

Course URL <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~sj6/gandhi'sindia.html>

You can access NAU's Safe Working and Learning Environment Policy and other policy statements at <http://home.nau.edu/diversity/> The Classroom Management Statement is available online at <http://www4.nau.edu/stulife/handbookmanagement.htm>

Course Description

Through a focus on the times, ideas, achievements, and limitations, of one of the most remarkable individuals of the twentieth century, this course examines the history of British colonialism and Indian nationalism. To understand Gandhi's India, we need to first understand the nature of British imperialism against which Indian nationalism, including Gandhi's, evolved. This course therefore covers the period from the mid 1700s to 1947. In addition to Gandhi's ideas and activities, the course examines the material and ideological structures of British imperialism, and the many strands of nationalism in British India. One of our objectives is to understand nationalisms rather than a singular nationalism – and to realize that nationalism could mean different things to different people. What makes this particularly obvious in Gandhi's India was that decolonization in 1947 created not one, but two independent nation-states – India and Pakistan. Looking at this history will not only afford insight into the life and work of Gandhi, but also allow us to better evaluate the nature of the transition that took place in 1947.

Readings

We use the textbook by Barbara and Thomas Metcalf to allow us to understand the historical context of the themes we study in the course. David Hardiman's excellent book analyzes Gandhi's life and work from his own context and the contemporary one. To give you a sense of what Gandhi himself said there is his very short pamphlet, *Hind Swaraj* -- which is often regarded as the nearest thing he came to outlining a manifesto of his beliefs. I have also included a novel, Premchand's *Godaan (Gift of a Cow)* to provide a fictional, but still very authentic account of how common folk in India lived their lives under British rule. There are a few other short readings, which I will make available through electronic reserve give you direct

links from the course web page. I have deliberately provided you with many different points of views in these readings in the hope that you will make your own informed arguments about the issues we discuss in this course.

The following REQUIRED texts have been ordered at the NAU Bookstore:

1. Barbara and Thomas Metcalf. *A Concise History of India*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Second Edition.

2. M. K. Gandhi. *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule*. Ahmedabad: Navajivan Publishing House, 1996.

3. Premchand. *Gift of a Cow* (Original title *Godaan*). Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2002.

4. David Hardiman. *Gandhi in his Times and Ours*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004.

IN ADDITION: Short scholarly articles and/or fictional writing which are a REQUIRED part of reading for this course will be on electronic reserve.

Course Requirements, Assignments and Evaluation

Discussions

The class will be divided into small groups to facilitate three formal discussions. You will be given specific questions or topics around which to frame your discussion notes a few days in advance of the discussion day. On the day of the discussion you need to come prepared with TWO copies of your notes on the discussion topics. You will hand one copy of that to me, and use the other to participate in the discussion. Attendance and participation in all discussions is mandatory; there is no possibility of make-ups of discussions. Under **NO CIRCUMSTANCES** will notes be accepted *after* the discussion has already taken place. If University-related business compels you to miss the discussion, you will be allowed to submit the notes *in advance of your departure*.

Paper

The paper needs to be about 1700-2000 words in length and will ask you to undertake a HISTORICAL reading of *Godaan*. In the paper you will be expected to combine your understanding of the story with the HISTORICAL background of events, ideas, personalities, and processes you have obtained from class readings, discussion and lectures. Detailed instructions for writing the paper will be provided when formally assigned.

Exams

There will be an in-class, closed-book mid term examination which may ask you to answer map-related questions, provide short answers and/or write essays on a particular subject. Detailed study guides with lists of possible questions will be provided in advance of the exam.

The final, in addition to an in-class exam, will also require students to fulfill a TAKE HOME COMPONENT. The take home portion will be assigned a week in advance of the final and will ask you to use chapters six and seven of Hardiman's book to write a critical evaluation of Richard Attenborough's film on Gandhi. For extra credit, students may also use film *Jinnah* (DVD 1290) and/or *Sardar* (DVD 1867) to make additional comments on the Attenborough film.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE IN CLASS

Grades

The grades for the course will be determined according to the following criteria:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Paper | 250 points |
| Final Exam 150 points (in class)+150 points (take home) | 300 points |
| Mid-Term Exam | 150 points |
| Discussion Notes (100 points each) | 300 points |

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| TOTAL FOR COURSE | 1000 points |
|------------------|-------------|

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Extra Credit in take-home final | up to 100 points |
|---------------------------------|------------------|

The grading scale for the course will be as follows:

900-1000 = **A**; 800-899 = **B**; 700-799 = **C**; 600-699 = **D**; below 600 = **F**.

Attendance and Course Policy

I expect regular class attendance, of course, without which there is no point in your being enrolled in this class. Missing too many classes will undoubtedly have a negative impact on your class performance. Absence from discussion groups will certainly bring your grade down as there is no possibility of make-ups for that part of the class.

If you miss a class, whatever your reasons for doing so, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find out what happened in that class by contacting a classmate. I also expect you to come to class having done all the required reading, and prepared to engage in discussion. Finally, I expect you to be motivated to learn about the subject, and to improve your skills as a historian.

PLEASE NOTE: I do not give extensions, incompletes, or make-up exams, except in cases required by University policy. Full documentation of reasons for absence will be required in such cases. Plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in failing the course. Please consult the *NAU Student Handbook's* sections on academic dishonesty (particularly Appendix F) if you are not certain of the meaning of any of these terms. IT IS THE STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO FAMILIARIZE HERSELF/HIMSELF WITH THESE MATTERS AS DEFINED BY THE UNIVERSITY.

Provisional Course Schedule (Subject to modification)

PART ONE : INTRODUCTIONS

August 26 *Course Introduction*

August 28 *An Introduction to Indian History*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, *A Concise History of India*, Preface and Chapter One.

PART TWO : THE BRITISH IN INDIA

September 2-4 *Coming of British Rule*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter Two.

September 9-11 *Company Raj*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter Three.

Assignment

Questions for Discussion #1: From Traders to Rulers: Consequences for India.

September 16 *Discussion #1 : Traders to Rulers and its Consequences for India*

PART THREE : REVOLT, THE COLONIAL STATE, and EARLY NATIONALISTS

September 18 *Revolt and the Colonial State*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter Four.

September 23-25 *Colonizers and the Colonized*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter Five.

Assignment

Questions for Discussion #2: Class, Gender, and Early Indian Nationalism.

September 30-Oct. 2 *Gender, Colonialism, and Nationalism*

Reading

1. Sumanta Banerjee “Marginalization of Women’s Popular Culture in Nineteenth Century Bengal” in Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid ed. *Recasting Women* (Delhi: Kali for Women, 1989)

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~sj6/Banerjee womens pop culture.pdf>

2. Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain (1880-1932) “Sultana’s Dream.” Originally published in The Indian Ladies Magazine, Madras, India, 1905, in English.

<http://home.earthlink.net/~twoeyemagazine/issue2/sultana.htm>

October 7 *Discussion #2: Nation, Class, and Gender in early Nationalism.*

October 9 **MID TERM REVIEW**

October 14 **MID TERM EXAM**

I advise you to start reading *Hind Swaraj* and *Godaan* on your own starting October 15.

PART FOUR : THE MAHATMA AND THE OTHERS OF GANDHIAN NATIONALISM

October 16 *The Political Background*

Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter Six, pp. 167-189.

October 21 *Gandhi's India*

Reading

David Hardiman, *Gandhi in His Time and Ours* pp. 1-65, Chapters 1 through 3.

October 23-28 *Gandhi's Manifesto*

Reading

M.K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj*. (entire text).

David Hardiman, "An Alternative Modernity" pp. 66-77 of his *Gandhi in His Time and Ours*.

Assignment

PAPER ASSIGNED

October 30 - November 4 *Worlds of the Gandhian Peasant*

Reading

Premchand's *Gift of a Cow (Godaan)*. (entire text)

November 6 *Gandhi, Women, Gender and Sexuality*

Reading

David Hardiman, "Father of the Nation" chapter 5, pp. 94-122 of his *Gandhi in His Time and Ours*.

Assignment

Discussion #3 Questions Assigned

November 11 **NO CLASS**

November 13 *Discussion #3: Evaluating Gandhian Nationalism*

November 18-20 **NO CLASS: Watch Richard Attenborough's GANDHI on your own.**

PART FIVE : THE MAHATMA MARGINALIZED**November 25** *The Congress and the Raj*Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, pp. 190-217.

Assignment**Paper on *Godaan Due*** (Will accept the paper on **December 2** without penalty too)**December 2** *The Congress and the end of the Raj?*Reading

Metcalf and Metcalf, pp. 217-230.

Assignment**Final Exam Study Guide Handed Out****December 4** *Perspectives on Partition and End of Term Review*Reading

1. "Toba Tek Singh" by Saadat Hasan Manto (Frances Pritchett's translation)
<http://www.columbia.edu/itc/mealac/pritchett/00urdu/tobateksingh/translation.html>

2. "Partitioning India Over Lunch"
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/6926464.stm

THE IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE WILL BE ON *TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 12:30 am TO 2:30 pm.*

Northern Arizona University

POLICY STATEMENTS

SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

NAU's Safe Working and Learning Environment Policy seeks to prohibit discrimination and promote the safety of all individuals within the university. The goal of this policy is to prevent the occurrence of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status and to prevent sexual harassment, sexual assault or retaliation by anyone at this university.

You may obtain a copy of this policy from the college dean's office or from the NAU's Affirmative Action website <http://www4.nau.edu/diversity/swale.htm>. If you have concerns about this policy, it is important that you contact the departmental chair, dean's office, the Office of Student Life (928-523-5181), or NAU's Office of Affirmative Action (928-523-3312).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have a documented disability, you can arrange for accommodations by contacting the office of Disability Support Services (DSS) at 928-523-8773 (voice), 928-523-6906 (TTY). In order for your individual needs to be met, you are required to provide DSS with disability related documentation and are encouraged to provide it at least eight weeks prior to the time you wish to receive accommodations. You must register with DSS each semester you are enrolled at NAU and wish to use accommodations.

Faculty are not authorized to provide a student with disability related accommodations without prior approval from DSS. Students who have registered with DSS are encouraged to notify their instructors a minimum of two weeks in advance to ensure accommodations. Otherwise, the provision of accommodations may be delayed.

Concerns or questions regarding disability related accommodations can be brought to the attention of DSS or the Affirmative Action Office. For more information, visit the DSS website at <http://www2.nau.edu/dss/>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The university takes an extremely serious view of violations of academic integrity. As members of the academic community, NAU's administration, faculty, staff and students are dedicated to promoting an atmosphere of honesty and are committed to maintaining the academic integrity essential to the education process. Inherent in this commitment is the belief that academic dishonesty in all forms violates the basic principles of integrity and impedes learning. Students are therefore responsible for conducting themselves in an academically honest manner.

Individual students and faculty members are responsible for identifying instances of academic dishonesty. Faculty members then recommend penalties to the department chair or college dean in keeping with the severity of the violation. The complete policy on academic integrity is in Appendix G of NAU's Student Handbook <http://www4.nau.edu/stulife/handbookdishonesty.htm>.

ACADEMIC CONTACT HOUR POLICY

The Arizona Board of Regents Academic Contact Hour Policy (ABOR Handbook, 2-206, Academic Credit) states: "an hour of work is the equivalent of 50 minutes of class time...at least 15 contact hours of recitation, lecture, discussion, testing or evaluation, seminar, or colloquium as well as a minimum of 30 hours of student homework is required for each unit of credit."

The reasonable interpretation of this policy is that for every credit hour, a student should expect, on average, to do a minimum of two additional hours of work per week; e.g., preparation, homework, studying.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Membership in the academic community places a special obligation on all members to preserve an atmosphere conducive to a safe and positive learning environment. Part of that obligation implies the responsibility of each member of the NAU community to maintain an environment in which the behavior of any individual is not disruptive.

It is the responsibility of each student to behave in a manner that does not interrupt or disrupt the delivery of education by faculty members or receipt of education by students, within or outside the classroom. The determination of whether such interruption or disruption has occurred has to be made by the faculty member at the time the behavior occurs. It becomes the responsibility of the individual faculty member to maintain and enforce the standards of behavior acceptable to preserving an atmosphere for teaching and learning in accordance with University regulations and the course syllabus.

At a minimum, students will be warned if their behavior is evaluated by the faculty member as disruptive. Serious disruptions, as determined by the faculty member, may result in immediate removal of the student from the instructional environment. Significant and/or continued violations may result in an administrative withdrawal from the class. Additional responses by the faculty member to disruptive behavior may include a range of actions from discussing the disruptive behavior with the student to referral to the appropriate academic unit and/or the Office of Student Life for administrative review, with a view to implement corrective action up to and including suspension or expulsion.