



The Alliance for Global Education, Pune Program Spring 2010

SOCI 360 Contemporary India

Dr. Mangesh Kulkarni

Evaluation and Grading Structure

1. Tests: Two tests, each comprising ten multiple-choice questions, will be conducted to assess the students' conceptual understanding of the themes covered in the course syllabus. (20 marks)
2. Essay: Each student will be asked to choose a topic from the syllabus and write an essay on it. The essay (about 2000 words) ought to give clear evidence of independent research and analytical acumen. Sources of information should be cited in the footnotes. (40 marks)
3. Presentations: Each student would submit a short write-up and make an oral presentation reflecting on her/his experience of field visits to urban and rural settings in India. (25 marks)
4. Classroom participation: Students' attendance, punctuality, attentiveness and contribution to classroom discussions will be continually monitored. (15 marks)

Topics and Readings

1. **The Making of Modern India: Impact of British rule; Independence and Partition.** (2 sessions)
Readings: Bipan Chandra, Amal Tripathi and Barun De, *Freedom Struggle* (New Delhi: National Book Trust, India, 1972), pp. 1-40; Percival Spear, *A History of India*, Vol. Two (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1979), pp. 230-243.
2. **The Indian Political System: Its Structure and Dynamics.** (3 sessions)
Readings: Study material prepared by the Indira Gandhi National Open University for their course on India; James K. Norton, *Global Studies: India and South Asia* (Guilford, CT: Duskin Publications, 2007), pp. 34-45.

- 3. The Mosaic of Indian Society: Tribe, Caste, Class, Gender and Religion.** (4 sessions)
Readings: Nirmal Kumar Bose, *Tribal Life in India* (New Delhi: National Book Trust, India, 2002), pp. 1-5; Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 107-120; David Ludden, *India and South Asia: A Short History* (Oxford: Oneworld, 2004), pp. 256-272.
- 4. India's Political Economy: Continuity and Change.** (3 sessions)
Readings: Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 3-32; Amit Bhaduri and Deepak Nayyar, *The Intelligent Person's Guide to Liberalization* (New Delhi: Penguin Books, 1996), pp. 159-181.
- 5. Human Development in India: Health and Education.** (2 sessions)
Readings: Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 70-85; Ira Pande (ed.) *Beyond Degrees: Finding Success in Higher Education* (NOIDA: HarperCollins, 2008), pp. 2-19.
- 6. India's Science and Technology Policy: Its Social Benefits and Costs.** (2 sessions)
Readings: Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 86-104; Ashis Nandy (ed.) *Science, Hegemony and Violence: A Requiem for Modernity* (Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1990), pp. 232-256.
- 7. Social Movements in India: Implications for Civil Society and Democratic Governance.** (3 sessions)
Readings: Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 184-211; Rajesh Tandon and Ranjita Mohanty (ed.) *Does Civil Society Matter? : Governance in Contemporary India* (New Delhi: Sage, 2003), pp. 285-314.
- 8. India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect.** (3 sessions)
Readings: Usha Thakkar and Mangesh Kulkarni (ed.) *India in World Affairs: Towards the 21st Century* (Mumbai: Himalaya Publishing House, 1999), pp. 14-33; Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics* (Delhi: Pearson, 2009), pp. 372-388.

9. Current Issues of Concern: Naxalism and Terrorism. (3 sessions)

Readings: Rajesh Basrur (ed.) *Challenges to Democracy in India* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp. 167-204; James K. Norton, *Global Studies: India and South Asia* (Guilford, CT: Duskin Publications, 2007), pp. 94-97.

Additional Reading Material for the Course: Indian newspapers like *The Times of India*, *The Indian Express*, *The Hindu*, and periodicals such as *India Today*, *Frontline* and *Economic & Political Weekly*. Students may also consult *The Penguin India Reference Yearbook 2007* (New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2006) which has a special section on sixty years of Indian Independence, and the latest edition of the Yearbook. Other supplementary reading material will be recommended from time to time.