ANS Syllabus University of Texas at Austin

Welcome to new culture

SOUTH INDIAN CULTURAL HISTORY
ANS 372

Instructor: Sankaran Radhakrishnan Ph.D.
Meeting time: T Th 3.30-5.00 RLM 6.120
Office hours: Monday 10-11 at WCH 5.136 (By appointment)

Course content and goals:

This course is an introduction to one of the world's great civilizations, that of south India and India, from its beginnings in the third millennium BC to the present day. The first quarter will deal with classical Indian civilization, its origins, its social structure, religions, arts and sciences. The second quarter and half will examine India's encounters with the civilizations (Ancient, pre-historic, and modern). This course will provide the student with a thorough understanding to South Indian cultures, and their developments and aspects that is major social, political, and economical changes. The course will focus major components of culture in Indian context in general and South India particular. The course will proceed with the introduction to early culture and examine the development of social and political structures and their influences over the society. During the course of study, the class will examine about indigenous cultural groups (races), their cultures, their influence, pre-historic situations; role of geography in south Indian cultures, influence of other cultures on south Indian society; contact between India and south India with East Asia; role of temples, temples as cultural centers and their influence on society; emergence of social divisions and their role in modern contexts, marriage and marriage patterns, rituals: believes and faiths etc. The development of art forms as art was seen as a precious human expression, capturing the truth of beauty in the natural world and the Renaissance was seen as its most fulfilled, rational and technically perfect manifestation.

A clear picture about the early, medieval, and modern cultures will be presented to understand the region, south India and its cultures through lectures, discussions, multimedia materials etc. Student's active class participation also form part of the course.

Grading/ Course Requirements:
Grading will be done based on quizzes (2), attendance, class participation, a long Paper/project and presentation, critical write-ups on specific themes. There will be number of interesting visuals (videos, slides, transparencies, pictures etc) on different aspects of the cultures for this class to make the students to feel the culture of the region and for more cultural understanding. Students are expected to observe carefully the videos and take notes to write Write-ups and prepare for quizzes.

Class Attendance and participation:
Attendance in every class is requirement. Class participation and discussion is expected in the class. Absences will reflect and lead to reduction in the final grade.

Grading: Score points distribution

Quiz (Q-1: 15+Q-2: 10) ……	25%
Video write-up	05%
Attendance and class participation ……	20%
Paper(s)/Project and presentation ……	40%
Short critical write-up (topic) ……..	10%

- Students will have opportunity to read and respond to others project (1)/papers (2) and revise the project and papers many times based on instructor's feedback.
- Students will have opportunity to see other's work and offer constructive criticism for their understanding of the subject.

ACTIVITY:
Classes will be supported by many video films related to the lecture topics. The course will be made interesting for student by involving him/her in the discussions. The aim is to motivate the student to think on specific area of interest in Asian Studies. The course is organized in such a way that student gets motivated for further study in the subject. Talks on campus related to the course especially in the Asian Studies will be informed in the class a week before the commencement. Student can attend them on his/her will.
If students need help, they can feel free to discuss with the instructor any time out side the class hours or during the office hours or by appointment.

NO final exam.

Class activities: We meet 29 times for this class.

Hours	**Lecture and discussion topics**
1-8	Introductions to India: Culture, components of cultures The two Great civilizations: Aryan and Indus Valley: land and development of cultures Political culture and cultural influence and synthesis: Emergence of India Moguls Moguls to Indian Independence British colonial period Indian Independence Gandhi -Father of Nation, Non-violence Presence of Dutch and Portuguese After Indian Independence (After British regime) Modern India as Nation

Reading materials:
<u>From the Course Pack:</u>

The Impact of Aryan culture
Aryan
Who are the Dravidians?
Early civilizations of northwest
Videos contents

Quiz -1 on:
QUIZ 1(1-8 classes): Multiple choice and short answer questions.
For Extra points (10): One essay question (based on the course-pack article, "Impact of Aryan culture".
Quiz model will be discussed in the class a week before the quiz date.

Topics for the quiz-1:
Emergence of India- a complete sketch on Indian History based on the class activities (lecture and videos contents) and the Reading materials listed above.
The expected quiz is to test your understanding of India since Indus and Aryans civilizations to Modern period (mainly from the class lectures, notes, course-pack and videos content).

9-19 I

Lecture and discussion topics
Pre-history of South India
Geographical factors in South Indian Culture
Race-cultures: Background of South India
Videos

Reading materials:
From the Course Pack:
Pre-history of South India)
Geographical factors in South Indian Culture
Race-cultures: Background of South India
Ethnic composition and foreign elements in Indian history
Africans in early Asian civilizations…

II

Lecture and discussion topics
Cultural History: Society, Interaction, and caste systems
South Indian Society in the Early and Medieval period
Marriage in South India, Modern brides, Arranged marriages
Video Contents

Reading materials:
From the Course Pack:
South Indian Society in the Early and Medieval period
Marriage, Sex relation and status of women
Videos contents

Quiz -2 on:
QUZIZ-2 (lecture topics from 9-19 classes): Multiple choice and short answer questions.
One essay type question for Extra points (10) based on the course-pack article, "Marriage, Sex relation and status of women".

Quiz model will be discussed in the class a week before the quiz date.
The quiz largely depends on the course-pack, videos contents, class note, handouts, and lectures.

20-27 **Lecture and discussion topics**

Temples - cultural centers- in South Indian culture
Temple festivals
Worship in S.I.-Pooja: Expression of devotion
Mother Goddess worship in S.I.

Videos

Reading materials:
From the Course Pack-Radhakrishnan:

Contacts and Adjustments: S.I. – China, East Asia

Lecture and discussion topics
Religious movements in S.I.

Rituals, Believes, Faiths…..

Fine arts and performing arts of S.I.:
Classical dance forms, painting, music….
Architecture
TV culture and Indian and south Indian cinema
Videos: 330 Millions of Gods etc.

Read (the following articles will be placed on Bb)
1. Religion and Philosophy
2. Spirituality, religion and philosophy

(Optional and only if we get time)
Language culture:

Language and Literature of South India
Development of Classical Tamil and literature, Sanskrit literature, Old Telugu, Prakrit language and literature, Malayalam language and Literature, Urdu language and literature
Folk arts of S.I.
Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu
Folk and Tribal dances

Good Luck

Note important dates:

Grading: Score points distribution

Quiz (Q-1: 15+Q-2: 10) ……	25%
Video write-up	05%

Attendance and class participation …… 20%
Paper(s)/Project and presentation …… 40%
Short critical write-up (topic) …….. 10%

Quizzes:

There are two quizzes. They are conducted during the class hours.
Quiz #1 (for 15%) on: Feb 26
Quiz #2 (for 10%) on: April 16

Project and presentation: (40%)
Details will be discussed after two weeks from the first day of class.

Submission of the project to the Instructor: will be announced later
Paper(s)/Project Presentation date: will be announced later
Late submission leads to loss of 5% a day from the 40%.

Video write-up: (5%)

There will be many videos shown that are related to lecture topic(s). Out of many videos, one or two will be for writing critical write-up. The listed ones or the name(s) of the video (s) will be announced by the instructor a week before the class in the class. The write-up must show you understanding of the video(s) content and link the lecture topic(s) with the content of the video(s).
The write-up must be minimum two and half pages in length and with 1.5 spaces with 12 point letter type (Times New Roman).

The video write-up must be submitted on the **following class day.**
Only hard copy must be submitted.
Late submissions will result reduction of 2.5% from the 5% for the write-up for each late day.

The videos will be on:
1.Understanding Traditions and Expression of devotion-Pooja (rituals)
and World religions (2 videos)
2.Indian pilgrimage(ritual, faith, and belief)

Short critical write-up (topic)-10%

The write-up must show you understanding of the article/essay/videos content. Your critical comment or opinion form part of the write-up through a separate section towards the end of the write-up. The write-up must be minimum three and half (maximum five pages) pages in length with 1.5 spaces and in 12 point letter type (Times New Roman). Only hard copy must be submitted.
Late submissions will result reduction of 2% from the 10% for the write-up for each late day.

Topic and Date for submission will be announced in the class later.

Attendance and class participation: (20%)

Attendance is mandatory. You have to sign the sign-up sheets for your presence in the class with out fail if you are present in the class. Never sign for others.

Extra credit: (2%)

There will be number of talks by invited scholar guest speakers from other institutions in the Dept. of Asian Studies (WCH 4.118); 3.30-5.00 on Thursdays. Normally the talk will be for 40-50 minutes followed by discussions. You may skip the discussion part if you have class in the following hour though you are welcome to sit. You can attend any two talks to get the 2%. After attending each talk, you have to give ONE page write-up [1.5 spaces with 12 point letter type (Times New Roman)]. That means, you need to give 2 write-ups to earn the 2%. Each write-up is due on the very next day in the class as hard copy. This is a good opportunity for you to learn more about South Asia and earn 2% extra.

Since the talks are during our class time, we all will compulsorily attend the two talks.

The dates of the talks and topics will be placed on Blackboard or announced later.

Since there is no FINAL EXAM for this course, there is no make-up policy is considered. Students are strongly advised to do this and easily earn 2%.

Services for Students with Disabilities website (found here: http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/providing.php

Detailed Schedule of activities:

Scheme:

Class hours	Class discussion
1-7	Introductions to India: Culture, components of cultures The two Great civilizations: Aryan and Indus Valley: land and development of cultures Political culture and cultural influence and synthesis: Emergence of India Moguls Moguls to Indian Independence British colonial period Indian Independence

Gandhi -Father of Nation, Non-violence
Presence of Dutch and Portuguese
After Indian Independence (After British regime)
Modern India as Nation

Read
Thapar. Chapter 2 - The Impact of Aryan culture
Radhakrishnan. Course pack Articles
Nilakanta Sastri. Chap.IV,
Nilakanta Sastri. Chap. V, VI, VII (optional)

Videos content

8-11 Pre-history of South India (S.I.)
Geographical factors in South Indian Culture
Race-cultures: Background of South India

Videos content

Read
Radhakrishnan. Course pack Articles-All the three topics
Bose, Chap. 2, Ethnic composition and foreign elements in Indian history
Nilakanta Sastri. Chap., The Earliest People and Cultures

12 Political History of S. India (self-reading)

Read
Nilakanta Sastri, Chap. V, VI, VIII

13-16 Cultural History: Society, Interaction, and social institutions: caste, marriage and other systems of cultures
South Indian Society in the Early and Medieval period.
Marriage in South India
Modern brides
Arranged marriages-a challenge in the face of economic and technology growth

Read
Nilakanta Sastri, Chap. XIII (optional)
Bose, Chapt-6, Marriage, Sex relation and status of women
Radhakrishnan. Course pack-Article topic: South Indian Society in the Early and Medieval period

Videos content

17-20 Temples - cultural centers- in South Indian culture
Temple festivals

Worship in S.I.-Rituals/ Expression of devotion
Mother Goddess worship in S.I.

Videos content

Read

Radhakrishnan. Course pack article: Temples as cultural centers..

Videos content

21-22 Contacts and Adjustments: S.I. – China, East Asia
Foreign missionary in S.I.: Portuguese/Dutch in S.I.

Read
Radhakrishnan. Course pack- Contacts and Adjustments: S.I. – China, East Asia

Videos content

23-26 Religious movements in S.I.
Rituals, Believes, Faiths…..
330 Millions of Gods (Video)

Read
Nilakanta Sastri. Chap. XV, Religion and Philosophy
Bose. Chap.7, Spirituality, religion and philosophy
Radhakrishnan notes

Video content

27 Fine arts and performing arts of S.I.:
Classical dance forms, painting, music….
Pallava, Vijayanagar architecture
TV culture and Indian and south Indian cinema

Read
Bose. Chap. 9
Nilakanta Sastri. Chap. XVI
Radhakrishnan's notes

Videos content

(Optional) Language and Literature of South India
Development of Classical Tamil and literature, Sanskrit literature, Old Telugu, Prakrit language and literature, Malayalam language and Literature, Urdu language and literature

Read Nilakanta Sastri, Chap. XIV also you can read Chap. VII for more information

To know about Folk arts of S.I.
Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu
Folk and Tribal dances

Books recommended:

1. M.L. Bose, *Social and Cultural History of Ancient India*
2. Nilakanta Sastri, *History of South India*
3. Thapar, *History of India Vol. I*
4. Course-pack, *South Indian cultural history* (collection of articles from various authors and books)

Use Radhakrishnan's Bb materials

Additional References:

Michael Thompson, Richard Ellis, and Aaron Wildavsky, Oxford, *Cultural Theory, 1990*
David Ludden, *India and South Asia*, Oxford, 2007
Charles H. Kennedy et al, *Government and politics in South Asia,* Westview Press, 2009
Robert L. Hardgrave, Jr., *Government and politics in developing nations*, 1993