

INTA 689-604: The Politics of Development in South Asia

Fall 2016

Time: Tues. 4:35-7:20

Location: Allen 1055

Instructor: YuJung (Julia) Lee

E-mail: yujunglee@tamu.edu

Office: Allen 1033

Office Hours: Wed. 12:30-1:30 or by appointment

Course websites: <http://ecampus.tamu.edu/>
<http://library-reserves.tamu.edu/>

Course Description

South Asia is home to over twenty percent of the world's population with rich diversity and dynamic growth. This course provides an introduction to the relationship between political institutions and economic development taking the world's largest democracy, India, as its primary example. We will begin with a historical background of India, and then examine formal political institutions that shape the development process. We will also be covering the social and cultural context of policymaking that accompanies economic growth, and the major development challenges facing the region today. The course is organized by key topics that include: colonial legacies, democratization, government institutions, elections and political parties, decentralization and governance, the role of minority groups in policymaking, dealing with poverty, corruption and other important policy issues in human development such as health and education. Using India as a guide, the course will provide students with concepts and skills that may be used to analyze and interpret policy making in other developing countries.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the semester you will be able to:

- Describe different types of institutions and explain the political systems across and within countries in South Asia, especially India;
- Recognize major political parties and leading politicians of India and their impact on policies;
- Analyze the impact of democratic institutions on social groups identified by caste, ethnicity, religion or gender;
- Understand and evaluate the role and responsibilities of local governments in development;
- Identify influential non-state actors including civil society groups and describe their roles in policy making;
- Analyze India's developmental challenges in major policy issue areas including education, health, nutrition, and poverty;
- Understand India's cooperative efforts in trade and economic growth with other countries in the region as well as in the world.

Required Texts:

All of the required readings will be available on TAMU library eReserves at: <http://library-reserves.tamu.edu/>

Recommended Texts:

Kohli, Atul ed. 2001. *The Success of India's Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Robert Hardgrave & Stanley Kochanek. 2008. *India: Government and Politics in a Developing Nation*. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth.

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

Luce, Edward. 2007. *In Spite of the Gods: the Rise of Modern India*. New York: Random House.

Dreze, Jean and Amartya Sen. 2013. *Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions*. Princeton University Press.

Assignments

Midterm exam: The midterm will be an in-class, closed-book, closed-notes exam.

Presentations: The purpose of the presentation is to inform your peers of a topic for a country in South Asia, other than India. You will focus on one South Asian country and one topic that is in the syllabus. The week you choose to present determines what topic you choose in a sense that your presentation will cover the topic from the previous week (i.e. Week 4 presenter will present on the topic of Week 3). You may decide on the country (choose from Bangladesh, Pakistan, or Sri Lanka). We will have one presentation per class, and each presenter should present for 15-20 minutes (including Q&A time). You should have either presentation slides or handouts. In your presentation, you should narrow down the weekly topic and, at some point, explore the similarities and differences between your case and India. You do *not* need to hand in a written report of your presentation, but you should email your presentation slides to me. These slides will be uploaded to eCampus for everyone to view. You are required to present two times throughout the semester and you may choose to work with a partner if you wish.

Critical response papers: You will be required to write four critical response papers throughout the course. The purpose of these assignments is to help you synthesize the lecture material and readings and think critically about issues that were covered in class. I will give you prompts for the paper (uploaded on eCampus) and you should write your analytical response based on course material. These should be no more than 3 pages. Hard copies of papers should be submitted in class.

Final paper: The main written assignment for this course is to write an in-depth literature review on a specific topic. Choose a topic concerning South Asian politics and development either from current events or from history. Then, organize background information and current knowledge on your topic so that it presents an argument. You need to synthesize the materials and address what the findings in the papers mean and how they relate to your argument. You should also make suggestions for future studies based on desk research. Your final paper should be no more than 15 pages double spaced. You will be required to share and submit your topic and 2 page annotated bibliography in the middle of the semester. I will not read any drafts of your final paper during office hours, however you are highly encouraged to come and talk to me about your topic.

Grading

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Class participation	5%
Midterm exam	20%

Presentations (10+15)	25%
Critical response papers (5 each)	20%
Final paper	30%

Course Policies and Procedures

Late work policy: Hard copies of your papers must be submitted in class. Please do not email your papers to me. Papers submitted any time after class on the due date will be treated as late. Late papers will be downgraded half a letter *per day* (i.e. A to A- or about 4% per day). In the case of an emergency or excused absence (ex. hospitalization, family death), accommodations may be made with timely notification and appropriate documentation. For the midterm, there is no make-up exam so make sure you are available on the scheduled day of the exam.

Note on Office Hours: I strongly encourage you to come to my office hours should you need help or clarification on any of the materials. You may come in to talk to me about your final paper topic or go over the material you will be presenting.

Honor Code: Every student is expected to adhere to the Aggie Honor Code. “An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.” Violation of the Code can result in disciplinary action. If you have any questions about Honor Council Rules and Procedures, please ask the professor. You may find more information at <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>.

Cheating or Plagiarism: All work submitted in this course must be your own work, produced exclusively for this course. The use of someone else’s ideas, quotations, music, graphs/charts, and/or paraphrases must be properly documented, even if you have the permission of that person. Direct quotes must be in quotation marks and have the page number in the citation. ***Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the class.*** Violations may also be noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues, please consult with the instructors ***before*** you complete the relevant assignment.

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (Aug. 30): Introduction to South Asia and India

- Introduction to course: lecture on an overview of South Asia today & partition of India
- Start readings for Week 2.

Week 2 (Sept. 6): Historical Legacies and Key Political Figures in India

Hardgrave & Kochanek: Chapter 2.

Kohli ed.: Chapter 2 “Indian Democracy: The Historical Inheritance” by Sumit Sarkar.

Iyer, L. & Banerjee A 2005. "History, Institutions, and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India." *The American Economic Review*. Vol. 95 (4).

Part I: Political Institutions

Week 3 (Sept. 13): Parliament & Federalism

Laver, Michael and Kenneth Shepsle. "Government Accountability in Parliamentary Democracy." in Manin, Przeworski, and Stokes eds. *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999: 279-66

Hardgrave & Kochanek: "Parliament" section in Chapter 3, pg. 84-129 only.

Kohli, ed.: Chapter 4 "Center-State Relations" by J. Manor.

Hardgrave & Kochanek: Chapter 4 "The Challenge of Federalism"

Week 4 (Sept. 20): Local Governance

-Response paper 1 due.

-Presentations start.

Hardgrave & Kochanek: "Local Government" in Chapter 3, pg. 129-136 only.

Heller, Patrick, K. N. Harilal, and Shubham Chaudhuri. "Building local democracy: Evaluating the impact of decentralization in Kerala, India." *World Development* 35.4 (2007): 626-648.

Week 5 (Sept. 27): Electoral Systems and Political Representation

Hardgrave & Kochanek: Chapter 8

Lijphart, Arend. 1996. "The Puzzle of Indian Democracy: A Consociational Interpretation." *American Political Science Review* Vol. 90 (2).

Pande, R 2003. "Can Mandated Political Representation Increase Policy Influence for Disadvantaged Minorities? Theory and Evidence from India." *The American Economic Review* 93(4): p. 1132-1151

Jensenius, Francesca. 2015 "Mired in Reservations: The Path-Dependent History of Electoral Quotas in India." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74 (1): p. 85-105.

Part II: Social Influences on Political Processes

Week 6 (Oct. 4): Political Parties

-Response paper 2 due.

Hardgrave & Kochanek: Chapters 6 and 7

Oberst et al. 2014. "Chapter 4: Shifting Perspectives About Political Parties and Political Leaders." in *Government and Politics in South Asia*."

Pradeep Chhibber and Ken Kollman, "Party Aggregation and the Number of Parties in India and the United States," *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 92, No. 2 (Jun., 1998), pp. 329-342

BJP 2014 Election Manifesto. Read the first few pages and skim the rest. Available at: <http://www.bjp.org/manifesto2014>

Week 7 (Oct. 11): Caste, Class, and Religion

Chhibber, P.K. and J.R. Petrocik. 1989. "The Puzzle of Indian Politics: Social Cleavage and the Indian Party System." *British Journal of Political Science*, 19 (2): 191-210.

In Kohli, ed.: "The Struggle for Equality: Caste in Indian Politics" by Myron Weiner

Chandra, Kanchan. 2004. "India as a Patronage Democracy" in *Why Ethnic Parties Succeed: Patronage and Ethnic Head Counts in India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: p. 115-142.

Week 8 (Oct. 18): Midterm Exam

Week 9 (Oct. 25): Civil Society and Social Movements

In Kohli, ed.: "Social Movement Politics in India: Institutions, Interests, and Identities" by Mary Katzenstein, Kothari Smithu, and Mehta Uday.

Varshney, Ashutosh. 2001. "Ethnic Conflict and Civil Society: India and Beyond," *World Politics* 53(3): p. 362-298.

Wilkinson, Steven. 2004. Chapter 1 "The Electoral Incentives for Ethnic Violence" in *Votes and Violence: Electoral Competition and Ethnic Riots in India*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hoelscher, Kristian, Jason Miklian, and K.C. Vadlamannati. 2012. "Hearts and Mines: A District Level Analysis of the Maoist Conflict in India." *International Area Studies Review* 15(2): p. 141-160.

Week 10 (Nov. 1): Gender

-Final paper topic due: Please bring in idea(s) for your final paper topic to share with your peers.

Chattopadhyay, Raghubendra and Esther Duflo, 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India," *Econometrica*, 72(5): p. 1409-1443.

Corbridge, Stuart, John Harriss and Craig Jeffrey. 2013. Chapter 13 "How Much Have Things Changed for Indian Women?" in *India Today: Economy, Politics, and Society*

Lee, YuJung. "Do Female Representatives Improve Sanitation?" working paper.

Sen, Amartya. 20 Dec. 1990. "More than 100 Million Women are Missing" *New York Review of Books*.

Part III: Developmental Challenges

Week 11 (Nov. 8): Pro-Poor Growth

-Revised final paper topic and annotated bibliography due.

Varshney, Ashutosh. 2007. "India's Democratic Challenge." *Foreign Affairs* 86.2: 93-106.

Atul Kohli, 2006. "Politics of Economic Growth in India, 1980-2005" Part I and II. *Economic and Political Weekly* 41(13) April 1:p. 1251-59 and 41(14) April 8:p. 1361-70.

Hardgrave & Kochanek: Chapters 9

Baerjee, Abhijit, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster, Cynthia G. Kinnan. 2013. "The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation" NBER Working Paper No. 18950.

Singh, Perna 2013. "Public Goods Provision and Social Development in India." in *Routledge Handbook of Indian Politics*, ed. Kohli and Sing. New York: Routledge: p. 230-245.

Week 12 (Nov. 15): Corruption

-Response paper 3 due.

Bardhan, Pranab and Dilip Mookherjee. 2006. "Decentralization, Corruption and Government Accountability," in Susan Rose-Ackerman, ed. *International Handbook on the Economics of Corruption*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.

Min, Brian, and Miriam Golden. 2014. "Electoral Cycles in Electricity Losses in India." *Energy Policy* 65: 619-625.

Bussell, Jennifer. 2012. *Corruption and Reform in India: Public Services in the Digital Age*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-2.

Week 13 (Nov. 22): Human Development: Health & Education

-Response paper 4 due.

Deaton, Angus and Jean Dreze. 2009. "Food and Nutrition in India: Facts and Interpretations" *Economic & Political Weekly*. Feb. 14.

The Economist. 4 July 2015. "Of Secrecy and Stunting"

Dreze, Jean and Amartya Sen. 2013. Chapter 5 in *Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contractions*. Princeton University Press.

Chaudhury, Nazmul, et al. 2006. "Missing in Action: Teacher and Health Worker Absence in Developing Countries." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20.1: 91-116.

Kremer, Michael, et al. "Teacher Absence in India: A Snapshot." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 3.2-3 (2005): 658-667.

Week 14 (Nov. 29): Wrap up: India and the World

Saez, Lawrence. 2011. *South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC): An Emerging Collaboration and Architecture*. New York: Routledge. Chapter 4 "The Dimensions of Regional Collaboration in South Asia."

Armijo, Leslie Elliot. 2007. "The BRICs Countries (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) as Analytical Category: Mirage or Insight?" *Asian Perspective* 31(4): p. 7-42.

-Depending on interest and time we may also look into the environmental issues:

Karan, P.P. 1994. "Environmental Movements in India," *The Geographical Review*, 84.

Baland, Jean-Marie, Pranab Bardhan, Sanghamitra Das and Dilip Mookherjee. 2010. "Forests to the People: Decentralization and Forest Degradation in the Indian Himalayas," *World Development*, 38(11): 1642-1656.

Duflo, Esther and Rohini Pande. 2007. "Dams" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(2): 601-646.

Final Paper due on Dec. 8, 10 a.m.