Comparative Politics of South Asia
Undergraduate
Kanchan Chandra

Description
This course is an introduction to the comparative politics of South Asia -- India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Bhutan and Nepal.

Requirements
1) Class Participation (20% of the grade): The grade on class participation will depend on regular attendance and contribution to the discussion in both class and section.
2) Two 5-7 page papers (20% each)
3) Final Exam (40%) of the grade: The final exam (closed book) will include both ID and essay questions.

Readings

Week One
Overview of the Course
The Origins Of South Asian States: Colonialism, Partition and Secession

No Assigned Reading

Part I: INDIA

Guidelines for Reading:
Almost each week, you are required to read a portion of Hardgrave and Kochanek. This book is primarily descriptive. In addition, you are also required to read articles or book chapters drawn from other sources each week. These additional readings are generally interpretive. They assume the basic background information provided in Hardgrave and Kochanek. You should always read Hardgrave and Kochanek first, and use it as a reference while reading other work.

Week Two: Colonial Legacies


Week Three: The State

Hardgrave and Kochanek, Chapters 3 and part of 4 (pp. 60-142).


Week Four: Social Structure

Hardgrave and Kochanek, 13-25.


Week Five: Parties

Hardgrave and Kochanek, Chapter 6.


Week Six: Economy

Hardgrave and Kochanek, Chapter 8


Week Seven: Conflict


**Week Eight: No Class: Spring Break**

**Part II**

**Guidelines for Reading:**
This part of the course covers a country a week. The volume of the reading for each week is correspondingly larger. I do not expect you to read all pages closely. Instead, skim the reading to identify those parts essential to understanding the history and politics of each country and read these parts carefully. I will pass out reading questions to help you make your way through this reading.

**Week Nine: Pakistan**

**Week 10: Bangladesh**

**Week 11: Sri Lanka**

**Week 12: Burma**

**Week 13: Nepal**

(Second Paper Due on or before class)

**Week 14: A Nuclear South Asia**


Week Fifteen:
Summing Up: Describing and Explaining Variation in the Survival and Performance of Democratic Regimes Across South Asia.