

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE HIST 90.09 | ASCL 54.10

# Global South Asia

## Capitalism, Connectivity, and Change From c. 1700–the present

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K period / Remote

Mostly asynchronous;  
w/ synchronous  
discussions

Tues. and Thur. 2:50-4:40 PM  
X-hour Fri 5:10-6:00 PM

**Assignments, activities, and materials will include** lectures (prerecorded), online discussions (synchronous and asynchronous), student-produced news reports, discussion of current events, maps and primary sources, midterm exam (essay), and a final multi-media project.

### Description:

**What is “South Asia”? And where does it fit in global narratives?** Is it the land of outsourcing and opportunity? Or underdeveloped and plagued by inequality and indifference? Is it the land of cultural vibrancy and religious diversity? Or the cradle of religious conflicts and communalism? Does it have a shared history and collective future? Or diverse pasts and multiple futures?

Taking apart these twinned narratives of failure and success; division and diversity; progress and timelessness, we will study South Asia as a global region from roughly 1700 to the present. Focusing on the region’s longstanding connections to the Middle East, East Africa, and Southeast Asia, we will examine its cultural, political, and economic histories in order to understand its place in the world today.

“Global South Asia” offers a sweeping introduction to the history of this region and an opportunity to understand how this history has shaped South Asia’s identity and global presence. Moving between the past and the present, we’ll focus on flows, exchanges, connections, and communities.

### Course Objectives:

Focusing on creating and critiquing historical narratives, in this course we will:

- Analyze South Asia as a region—geographically, politically, economically, and culturally
- Follow its history through global and regional connections
- Discover its relationships to neighbors in East Africa and the Gulf; Southeast, Central, and East Asia; the Indian Ocean; and the Asia-Pacific region more broadly
- Trace cultural, religious, intellectual, and commercial flows of information, ideas, people, and products from 1700 to the present
- Look to the past to understand and contextualize current events in the region

### Final Project:

Create (and present) a multi-media narrative: **How will you tell the story of global South Asia?**

NEW COURSE - FALL 2020