THE CIVILIZATIONS OF INDIA - MODERN PERIOD
FALL 2012-2013
Joe Elder

LANGASIA (LCA) 521-252  
GEOGRAPHY 416-252  elder@ssc.wisc.edu
HISTORY 448-252  Phone: 262-2782 with
POLI SCI 778-252  answering machine
SOCIOLOGY 900-252  M 1-2, T 4-5, W 3:30-4:30
         R 4-5, F 3:30-4:30
Lectures:  2:25 MWF
Lab (Films):  3:30 M
Soc. Sci. Bldg. Room 5208

Required Electronic Course Materials available at:
https://www.library.wisc.edu/course-pages/viewer/show/8368
(print copy available in Library Reserve Room)

Required Texts (available in Library Reserve Room)

Hay, Stephen (ed.), Sources of Indian Tradition, vol. II
Miller, Barbara S., The Bhagavad Gita
Wiser, William and Charlotte, Behind Mud Walls: Seventy-five
Years in a North Indian Village, with Chapters by Susan S.
Wadley

I. INDIA'S CITIES, VILLAGES, AND TRIBES TODAY

Miller, Barbara S., The Bhagavad Gita, all
Wiser, William and Charlotte, Behind Mud Walls, all
252 Electronic Course Materials

Joseph W. Elder, "The Hindu Caste System,
Week 1 (Sept. 5, 7)

Lectures: Marriages & Marriage Advertisements in India
Hindu Civilizations and Societies

Week 2 (Sept. 10, 12, 14)

Lectures: Layers of Teachings in the Bhagavad Gita (bring the Bhagavad Gita to class September 10)
India's Regions and Cities (Kashi, Madurai)
"An Indian Pilgrimage: Kashi (AS 2.002.002)
Film: "The Wages of Action" (AS 2.009)

Week 3 (Sept. 17, 19, 21) - receive Take-Home Exam Sept. 21

Lectures: India's Regions and Cities (Kashi, Madurai)
Film: "Darubahma ('Wooden Lord'); Jagannath's Re-Creation in Puri, India," (AS 2.049)
Tribes and Tribal Changes: The Akas, Santals, and Shavars
Film: "Wedding of the Goddess: Part II," (AS 2.003.02)
"An Indian Pilgrimage: Ramdevra" (AS 2.002.001)

Week 4 (Sept. 24, 26, 28)

Lectures: Muslim Civilizations and Societies
Muslim Civilizations in South Asia
Film: "Being Muslim in India" (AS 2.017)
Film: "Banaras Muharram and the Coals of Karbala" (AS 2.054)

Week 5 (Oct. 1)

Lecture: Hindu Folklore and Folk Art in India
Film: "Mithila Painters: Five Village Artists from Madhubani, India" (AS 2.032)

* First Take-Home Exam due Wednesday, October 3

(continued)
II. MUSLIM AND HINDU RULERS, THE BRITISH RAJ, AND POLITICAL TRANSITIONS

Readings


252 Electronic Course Materials


Week 5 (Oct. 3, 5)

Lectures: The Political and Religious Scene Before European Arrivals

The Coming of the British Raj

Film: "Four Holy Men: Renunciation in Hindu Society"
(AS 2.004)

Week 6 (Oct. 8, 10, 12)

Lectures: Hindu and Muslim Intellectuals
19th and 20th Century Political Stirrings
"The Fourth Stage: A Hindu's Quest for Release"
(AS 2.024)

Film: "Four Holy Men: Renunciation in Hindu Society"
(AS 2.004)

(continued)
Week 7 (Oct. 15, 17 19)

Lecture: Richard Attenborough's film "Gandhi"
"Village Man, City Man"
"Courts and Councils: Dispute Settlement in India"

Film: Richard Attenborough's film "Gandhi" (cont.)

Week 8 (Oct. 22, 24, 26) - receive Take-Home Exam Oct. 24

Lectures: "Dynasty: The Nehru-Gandhi Story"
Mohandas Gandhi: Satyagraha and Independence
Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Kashmir

Film: Lecture: Poetry and Politics of Rabindranath Tagore

Week 9 (Oct. 29, 31, Nov. 2)

Lectures: India's Constitution and Westminster Democracy
India's Languages and State Boundaries
1992 and 2002: India's Secularism Challenged

Film: "Bangladesh Nationhood: Symbols and Shadows"
(AS 2.006)

Week 10 (Nov. 5)

Lecture: India's Foreign and Nuclear Policies

Film: "Allahabad's Mela: The People and Their Great Fair" (AS 2.056)

* Second Take-Home Exam due Wednesday, Nov. 7.

III. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENTS

252 Electronic Course Materials:

Week 10 (Nov. 7, 9)

Lectures: India's Changing Economic Policies
         India's Population: Some Hard Realities

Week 11 (Nov. 12, 14, 16)

Lectures: Scheduled Castes/Tribes (SCs and STs)
          Mandal Commission and Other Backward Classes (OBCs)
          Images of Women: Texts, Folklore, Representations
          Film: "Dadi and Her Family" (AS 2.011)

Week 12 (Nov. 19, 21)

Lectures: Women, Law, and Politics in Contemporary India
          India's Health Systems: The AIDS Virus in India
          Films: "Kamala and Raji" Working Women of Ahmedabad
                 (AS 2.043)
                 "Modern Brides: Arranged Marriage in South India" (AS 2.019)

Week 13 (Nov. 26, 28, 30) – Receive Take-Home Exam Nov. 26

Lectures: Gays and Lesbians in Indian Civilization
          Indian Dance and Dance Drama
          Cinema and Television in India
          Film: "Given to Dance: India's Odissi Tradition"
                (AS 2.023)

Week 14 (Dec. 3, 5, 7)

Lectures: "Pather Panchali: Song of the Road (award-winning
          feature film by Satyajit Ray - 118 minutes)
          India's Educational Policies
          Creative Writing in India
          Film: "Pather Panchali: Song of the Road" (continued)

Week 15 (Dec. 10)

Lecture: The Indian Diaspora
Film: "Pilgrimage to Pittsburgh" (AS 2.041)
* Third Take-Home Exam due Wednesday, December 12

All students enrolled in the class are expected to complete three Take-Home Exams. With prior arrangement, an approximately 15-page research paper dealing with materials related to that third of the course may be substituted for any of the three Take-Home Exams. Consult in advance with Joe Elder.

Honors students should meet with Joe Elder early in the semester to decide on the specific nature of their honors work.

Note regarding the films. If you miss seeing one of the films (or want to see one of the films again), you can in some cases see the film on your own. When in the Syllabus a film title is followed by an "AS" (Asian Studies) number, you can go to Room 259 Van Hise Hall, ask to borrow the videocassette or DVD with that "AS" number, view the videocassette or DVD on one of the nearby video screens, and return the videocassette or DVD to Room 259.

How to contact Joe Elder - Joe Elder has office hours every day (see page 1). He's usually way behind IN his "Niagara Falls" of emails. If you email him, call 262-2782 and leave a voice message stating the date and time you sent your email.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED STUDYING -- AND EARNING U.W. CREDITS -- IN INDIA? The UW directly sponsors the "College Year/Semester in India Program" in Varanasi (Banaras). It also offers through the Council on International Educational Exchange a program on the University of Hyderabad campus and other locations. For more information see Joe Elder, or go to the Study Abroad Resource Room (106 Red Gym), or go to the Study Abroad website: www.studyabroad.wisc.edu, or Email peeradvisor@studyabroad.wisc.edu. THE BEST WAY TO LEARN ABOUT INDIA IS TO GO THERE.

Website References for India:

(India) "India Today" (like Newsweek or Time magazine) http://www.indiatoday.com
(India) "Frontline" (like The Progressive magazine) http://www.flonnet.com
(India) "Times of India" (major newspaper) http://www.timesofindia.com