



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
Global
University



ARTS3212

Contemporary India Through Bollywood: Politics, Society
and Culture

Term Three // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Leah McGarrity	l.mcgarrity@unsw.edu.au	Email for Appointment		

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

In the contemporary world order, India presents a paradox: a rising global economic powerhouse facing substantial developmental and environmental challenges. *Contemporary India* provides students with pathways to understanding India today, with reference to its post-colonial history, society and current politics. The course uses popular Hindi cinema or Bollywood as an entry point to trace the legacies of colonialism, democracy and secularism in India, alongside analyses of caste, gender and region. The course considers the developmental economy, as well as issues of corruption, neoliberalism and the role of the Indian diaspora. By the end of the course, you will be able to offer sound advice to anyone who asks you: Where is India going? What are the opportunities and risks offered by engaging with contemporary India?

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and evaluate relevant scholarly literature
2. Explain key aspects of Indian society, culture and politics since 1947
3. Construct evidence-based arguments using independently located sources
4. Perform assigned tasks within a group setting and take part in group discussion
5. Identify the ways in which popular culture, such as film, reflects the political, social and cultural influences in which it is produced and consumed.

Teaching Strategies

The course is designed to introduce students to contemporary Indian politics, society, and culture in an active learning environment. The course takes substantive issues addressed in contemporary Bollywood film as a prompt to interrogate the course themes. Short clips will be shown and discussed in class as a way of prompting thinking about topics. Weekly lectures provide the background information to introduce students to critical themes that structure collaborative learning. Break-out groups focus on specific readings, connecting events affecting contemporary India by engaging with news events, cultural expressions and analysis in the blogosphere. We will make use of jigsaw groups to divide readings and discuss them in small groups. Students are encouraged to tailor their writing assessments to align with their particular interests, and to write an extended essay on a topic of their own design.

Assessment

The preferred referencing system

is <https://student.unsw.edu.au/footnote-bibliography-or-oxford-referencing-system>

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Preparation and Participation	15%	18/11/2020 05:00 PM	1,4,5
Essay abstract and annotated bibliography	35%	23/10/2020 05:00 PM	1,2,3
Research Essay	50%	20/11/2020 05:00 PM	1,2,3

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Preparation and Participation

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 500 words

Details:

Small group teaching for this course is structured around groupwork. Students will work in the same small groups for the term, with each student preparing notes on a separate reading (on a single topic) each week to present to their group. This breaks up the readings and enables students to access a wide range of material through each other.

At the end of the session, students will assess their own and the peers in their group in terms of preparation and participation for small group discussion, using a rubric and proforma. The rubric asks students to assess the preparation, engagement, speaking and listening skills of themselves, and others in their group. The completed rubric is submitted to the instructor via turnitin.

These confidential assessments and comments will be used to guide the instructor's assessment of individual contributions to the weekly classes, based on their weekly class observation and engagement with the groups. Feedback will be provided to students about their individual contribution in the form of comments via turnitin.

Additional details:

This assessment may be adjusted to cater to COVID safe social distancing requirements. Details will be provided on Moodle.

Submission notes: See instructions on Moodle.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Essay abstract and annotated bibliography

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1200-1500 words

Details:

Students identify their major focus for the essay by week four, by writing an abstract outlining their intended argument, based on the literature consulted. The annotated bibliography will detail this literature, assessing five scholarly sources they have identified. 1200-1500 words. Feedback will be offered via individual comments, a rubric, and in-class discussion.

Submission notes: See instructions on Moodle.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Research Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3500

Details:

The research essay will extend on the first assignment, based on feedback and their independent research of the secondary literature. With a limit of 3,500 words, the essay offers the opportunity to explore a topic of the student's choosing in some detail. Feedback will be offered via individual comments and a rubric. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 14 September - 18 September	Seminar	India then and India now (1947 and 2020)
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 2: 21 September - 25 September	Seminar	Indian Democracy
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 3: 28 September - 2 October	Seminar	Religion and Secularism
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 4: 5 October - 9 October	Lecture	Caste and Untouchability - lecture will be online only due to public holiday.
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 5: 12 October - 16 October	Seminar	Gender and Sexuality; Marriage and Dowry
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 6: 19 October - 23 October	Assessment	Essay abstract and annotated bibliography due Friday
	Reading	There are no classes this week.
Week 7: 26 October - 30 October	Seminar	Activism: The Gandhian inheritance?
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 8: 2 November - 6 November	Seminar	Sub-Saharan or Emerging Superpower?: Development in India
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 9: 9 November - 13 November	Seminar	India on the Move: Internal and External Migration
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of online materials to support this week's learning.
Week 10: 16 November - 20 November	Seminar	India and its Neighbours: Pakistan and China
	Online Activity	There will be a selection of materials available online.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Readings are set each week on Moodle/ Leganto, as well online materials.

Recommended Resources

There will be additional resources on Moodle/ Leganto.

Course Evaluation and Development

Last year students provided extensive feedback on their favorite topics and readings. These have been factored into this year's course.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au. Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

Arun Sankar, AFP, 2020

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.