

Course Syllabus

1. **Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts (Social Science)
Faculty/Institute/College Mahidol University International College
2. **Course Code** ICSO 234 **Course Title** The Indian Sub-Continent up to c. 1500
3. **Number of Credits** 4 (**Lecture / Lab**) (4-0)
4. **Prerequisite (s)** None
5. **Type of Course** Elective course for Southeast Asian / International Studies concentration
6. **Trimester / Academic Year** Second trimester / Every second year
7. **Course Description**
 Introduction into the history and culture of the region. Prehistory. The Indus valley civilization. The settlement of Indo-Aryans. Empires and kingdoms. The Hindu-traditions. The emergence of Buddhism and Jainism. The early impact of Islam. Indian influences in Southeast Asia.
8. **Course Objective (s)**
 (i) To give students an overview of the main developments in history of the Indian Sub-Continent during the period covered.
 (ii) To increase students' awareness of the nature of historical thinking and methodology.

9. Course Outline

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	Indian Culture and Southeast Asia	4	Dr. Marja-Leena Heikkilä-Horn
2	Geography, People, Languages, Writing Systems	4	
3	Indus Culture	4	
4	Vedic Myths and Gods, "Aryanization"	4	
5	Caste Society	4	
6	Hindu Epics : Mahabharata and Ramayana	4	
7	Buddhist Era	4	
8	King Asoka and Mauryan Empire	4	
9	Indian Political Theory : Manusmrti and Arthasastra	4	
10	Gupta Dynasty	4	
11	The Impact of Islam	4	
	Total	44	

NB. The lecturer has the right to vary the topics as he / she see fit.

10. Teaching Method (s)

Lectures; questions and answers; classroom discussions.

11. Teaching Media

Notebook of lecture summaries.

12. Measurement and evaluation of student achievement

(i.e. Grading scheme) Grades given according to a fixed scale (Students receiving marks of 90% and above will receive letter grade A; those receiving less than 50% will fail, etc. Borderline cases (45 - 50%) may be passed if the student's attendance record, punctuality, and classroom demeanor have been exemplary.

13. Course evaluation

(i.e. Grading components) : Evaluation will be based on two examinations (Mid-term / Final) each carrying 50% of the marks. Questions will normally take the short answer or essay format.

14. Reference (s)

- (i) Basham A.L. : The Wonder that was India. London 1967.
- (ii) Thapar, Romila : A History of India. Vol. I. (Penguin Books 1966/1972)
- (iii) Wolpert, Stanley : A New History of India. Sixth Edition, OUP 2000.

15. Instructor (s)

Dr. Marja-Leena Heikkilä-Horn

16. Course Coordinator

Dr. Marja-Leena Heikkilä-Horn