

Course Syllabus

1. **Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts (Social Science)
Faculty/Institute/College Mahidol University International College
2. **Course Code** ICSO 342
Course Title Society, Politics and Economics in Contemporary South Asia
3. **Number of Credits** 4 (**Lecture / Lab**) (4-0)
4. **Prerequisite (s)** ICSO 235
5. **Type of Course** Elective course for International Studies concentration
6. **Trimester / Academic Year** Not yet specified

7. Course Description

An overview of the contemporary scene in South Asia; military governments in Pakistan; Indian democracy; Hindu fundamentalism; ethnic struggle in Sri Lanka; Islamic fundamentalism in Pakistan and Bangladesh; Indian technological revolution; gender and human rights questions.

8. Course Objective (s)

- (i) To give students an overview of the main developments in South Asian politics and economies during the period covered.
- (ii) To increase students' awareness of the nature of social science thinking and methodology.

9. Course Outline

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	What makes South Asia an entity ?	4	TBA
2	Indian parliamentarian system : Nehrus and Gandhis	4	
3	Hindu fundamentalism	4	
4	Role of the ethno - religious minorities	4	
5	Indian economy and hi - tech revolution	4	
6	Military tradition in Pakistan	4	
7	Pakistan and the wars in Afghanistan	4	
8	Islamic fundamentalism in Pakistan and Bangladesh	4	
9	Buddhist fundamentalism and ethnic struggles in Sri Lanka	4	
10	Dowry killings, sati and purdah : gender politics in South Asia	4	
11	Environmental and human rights questions in South Asia	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 and / or essay format.

14. Reference (s)

- (i) Talbot, Ian : India & Pakistan. Inventing the Nation. OUP 2000.
- (ii) Tambiah, Stanley : Leveling Crowds. Ethnonationalist conflicts and collective violence in South Asia. University of California Press. 1996.

15. Instructor (s)

Dr. Marja - Leena Heikkilä - Horn

16. Course Coordinator

Dr. Eugene Jones