

History 386, Modern India  
Prof. McGowen  
Summer, 2007

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Wed. 9-10

This course introduces students to the history of India from 1857 to the present. In the wake of the great revolt of 1857, the British transformed the methods and goals of their rule. We will study the character of that regime and of the many and varied responses of Indian peoples to that empire. Of particular concern to us will be the transmission of ideas and institutions between the British and Indians. We will also examine the rise, development, and the ultimate success of the independence movement of the twentieth century, as well as the background to the tragic conflict between Hindus and Muslims that tore apart the sub-continent. The course concludes with a study of India in the fifty years since independence.

Please be aware that this course is as rigorous as that offered during the normal school year. You will be doing the same amount of work as I assign during a normal quarter. This means that you should be prepared to devote several hours every day to completing reading assignments. The course grade will be determined on the basis of a midterm exam (30% of grade) and a final exam (50% of grade). Class discussion is also an important part of the course, and students are expected to complete reading assignments on time and to participate in discussion. (Please bring the Hay volume to every class.) Twice during the term students will participate in a debate over an issue arising from the readings. Each student should prepare a two-page summary of his or her position, supported with quotes taken from the Hay volume (to be handed in on the day of the debate). These papers will receive a satisfactory or unsatisfactory mark (and this grade will be figured into the discussion grade - 20% of the final grade).

This course will be managed in part on Blackboard. You can go to the web site to find study questions for each class, a guideline to debate expectations, and your debate assignment. If you have any questions about Blackboard, you can consult the Center for Educational Technologies.

Required readings:

ed. Stephen Hay, Sources of Indian Tradition, vol. II  
Metcalf & Metcalf, A Concise History of India  
P. Tandon, Punjabi Century  
W & C Wiser, Behind Mud Walls (2000 edition)

Course Outline:

June 25	Consolidation of British rule after 1857	Hay, 173-95; Metcalf, chap. 4
June 26	Rise of Hindu reform	Hay, 36-82
June 27	Indian opposition	Hay, 84-127
June 28	Character of British rule	Metcalf, chap. 5

