

PSC/IR 266
The Politics of India and Pakistan
Spring 2021
2:00pm-4:40pm

Alexander Lee

Instructor:

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Office: By Zoom

Office Hours: Fridays, 2pm-4:30pm. Sign up on Google Docs.

Course Goals:

This course is designed to give students a strong knowledge of the politics of two very important countries, India and Pakistan. As such it will cover many topics that are routine in comparative politics courses: The basic history of the countries, the structure of their political institutions, and the major political conflicts and actors. In addition, however, we would like to use South Asia as case to examine at some of deeper questions of political science, such as the causes of development, underdevelopment, democracy and identity formation. To do this, we will make frequent use of the comparative method, examining the contract between India and Pakistan, between various regions of these countries, and between various eras of their history

Textbooks:

Bose, Sugata, and Ayesha Jalal. *Modern South Asia : History, Culture, Political Economy*. 4th ed. London: Routledge, 2017.

Grading:

Class Participation — 10%

Reading Comprehension Quizzes —40% [Lowest Score dropped]

Take-Home Final — 25%

Research Proposal—25%

Course Policies:

Unexcused late work will be penalized a whole letter grade, and an additional letter grade for every additional 24 hours of lateness. Plagiarism or cheating will be treated seriously and reported to the Board of Academic Honesty.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Reading: Students will be graded on their attendance and participation in all classes.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be administered orally in the first thirty minutes of class and immediately before class, and will require students to identify and discuss key concepts from that week's readings. Six students will be randomly selected for ten minute quizzes each week.

Final: A final exam will ask students to write two short essays on themes covering the whole of the course material.

Research Proposal: Students should produce a detailed proposal of at least ten double spaced pages outlining a research project on the politics of South Asia. The proposal should outline the question to be studied, the conclusions of the existing literature, a working hypothesis, and the methods and data to be used. The proposed project must include at least of the following: 1) a substantial period of research within South Asia, 2) work with unpublished primary sources, 3) the analysis of quantitative data.

Readings

Week 1: Introduction

February 3rd

Week 2: The Geography, Cultures and Pre-1857 History of South Asia [Lecture]

Lecture: February 10th:

Readings:

Bose and Jalal. Ch. 1-9.

Week 3: The Colonial and Post-Colonial History of South Asia [Lecture]

Lecture: February 17th

Readings:

Bose and Jalal. Ch. 10-16, 18-19.

Week 4: Did Colonialism Make South Asia Poor?

Seminar: February 24th

Readings:

Naoroji, Dadabhai. *Poverty and un-British rule in India*. S. Sonnenschein, 1901. Introduction and p.31-8.

Darling, Malcolm Lyall. *Punjab peasant in prosperity and debt*. Humphrey Milford, London, 1925. P. 164-178

Donaldson, Dave. "Railroads of the Raj: Estimating the impact of transportation infrastructure." *American Economic Review* 108.4-5 (2018): 899-934.

Maddison, Angus. *Class structure and economic growth: India and Pakistan since the Moghuls*. Routledge, 2013. Chapter 3.

Lal, Deepak. *The Hindu Equilibrium: India C. 1500 BC-2000 AD*. Oxford University Press, 2005. Ch. 8.

Week 5: Did Colonialism Make Some Parts of South Asia Poorer Than Others?

Seminar: March 10th

Readings:

Iyer, Lakshmi. "Direct versus indirect colonial rule in India: Long-term consequences." *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 92.4 (2010): 693-713.

Banerjee, Abhijit and Lakshmi Iyer. 2005. "History, Institutions and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India," *American Economic Review* 95 (4): 1190-1213.

Lee, Alexander. "Land, State Capacity and Colonialism: Evidence from India" *Comparative Political Studies*, 2019, 52(3), 412-444

Bharadwaj, Prashant, Asim Ijaz Khwaja, and Atif R. Mian. "The partition of India: demographic consequences." *Available at SSRN 1294846* (2009).

Week 6: Why is India a Stable Democracy?

Seminar: March 17th

Readings:

Moore, Barrington. *The Social origins of dictatorship and democracy; lord and peasant in the making of the modern world*. Boston, Beacon Press [1966] P.314-317, 370-410

Lijphart, Arend. "The puzzle of Indian democracy: A consociational interpretation." *American political science review* 90.2 (1996): 258-268.

Wilkinson, Steven I. *Army and Nation*. Harvard University Press, 2015. Introduction

Kothari, Rajni. "The Congress' System'in India." *Asian survey* 4.12 (1964): 1161-1173.

Brass, Paul R. *Factional politics in an Indian state: The Congress party in Uttar Pradesh*. Univ of California Press, 1965. Chapter 3.

Week 7: Why is Pakistan Not a Stable Democracy?

Seminar: March 24th

Readings:

Ayesha Jalal, *Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia*. Cambridge University Press, 1995. Chapter 3.

Tudor, Maya. *The promise of power: The origins of democracy in India and autocracy in Pakistan*. Cambridge University Press, 2013. Chapter 1.

Oldenburg, Philip. *India, Pakistan, and democracy: Solving the puzzle of divergent paths*. Routledge, 2010. Chapter 1

Fair, C. Christine. *Fighting to the end: The Pakistan army's way of war*. Oxford University Press, 2014. Chapter 3.

Week 8: Why Have Parties Based on Caste and Religion Become Popular in India?

Seminar: March 31st

Readings:

Wilkinson Steven. *Votes and Violence* Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004. P1-18.

Christophe Jaffrelot, "The Rise of the Other Backward Castes in the Hindi Belt," *The Journal of Asian Studies* 59, no. 1 (February 2000): 86-108.

Chandra, Kanchan. *Why ethnic parties succeed: Patronage and ethnic head counts in India*. Cambridge University Press, 2007. Chapter 1

Suryanarayan, Pavithra. "When do the poor vote for the right wing and why: Status hierarchy and vote choice in the Indian states." *Comparative Political Studies* 52.2 (2019): 209-245.

Thachil, Tariq. "Elite parties and poor voters: Theory and evidence from India." *American Political Science Review*(2014): 454-477.

Week 9: Why is Public Service Provision in South Asia so Bad?

Seminar: April 7th

Readings:

Dasgupta, Aditya, and Devesh Kapur. "The Political Economy of Bureaucratic Overload: Evidence from Rural Development Officials in India." *American Political Science Review* 114.4 (2020): 1316-1334.

Shami, Mahvish. "Collective action, clientelism, and connectivity." *American Political Science Review* 106.3 (2012): 588-606.

Bohlken, Anjali Thomas. "Targeting ordinary voters or political elites? Why pork is distributed along partisan lines in India." *American Journal of Political Science* 62.4 (2018): 796-812.

Gupta, Akhil. *Red tape: Bureaucracy, structural violence, and poverty in India*. Duke University Press, 2012. Chapter 5.

Week 10: What are the Effects of Redistributive Social Policies?

Seminar: April 14th

Readings:

Besley, Timothy, and Robin Burgess. "Land reform, poverty reduction, and growth: Evidence from India." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 115.2 (2000): 389-430.

Dunning, Thad, and Janhavi Nilekani. "Ethnic quotas and political mobilization: caste, parties, and distribution in Indian village councils." *American political Science review* 107.1 (2013): 35-56.

Bertrand, Marianne, Rema Hanna, and Sendhil Mullainathan. "Affirmative action in education: Evidence from engineering college admissions in India." *Journal of Public Economics* 94.1-2 (2010): 16-29.

Gulzar, Saad, Nicholas Haas, and Benjamin Pasquale. "Does Political Affirmative Action Work, and for Whom? Theory and Evidence on India's Scheduled Areas." (2020) *American political Science review* 114(4), pp. 1230-1246

Week 11: What are the Causes of Corruption?

Seminar: April 21st

Readings:

Bertrand, M., S. Djankov, R. Hanna and S. Mullainathan. 2007. "Obtaining a Driver's License in India: An Experimental Approach to Studying Corruption," *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122:4, 1639-1676.

Bussell, Jennifer L. "Why get technical? Corruption and the politics of public service reform in the Indian states." *Comparative Political Studies* 43.10 (2010): 1230-1257.

Banerjee, Abhijit, Raghavendra Chattopadhyay, Esther Duflo, Daniel Keniston, and Nina Singh. *Improving police performance in Rajasthan, India: Experimental evidence on incentives, managerial autonomy and training*. No. w17912. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2012.

Vaishnav, Milan. *When crime pays: Money and muscle in Indian politics*. Yale University Press, 2017. Chapters 1 and 2.

Week 12: How Can Discrimination Against Women Be Reduced?

Seminar: April 28th

Readings:

Karekurve-Ramachandra, Varun and Alexander Lee. "Gender Quotas and Constituency Service in Indian Local Government" *Working Paper*, 2020.

Chattopadhyay, Raghavendra, and Esther Duflo. "Women as policy makers: Evidence from a randomized policy experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72.5 (2004): 1409-1443.

Brulé, Rachel E. "Reform, Representation, and Resistance: The Politics of Property Rights' Enforcement." *The Journal of Politics* 82.4 (2020): 1390-1405.

Sen, Amartya. "Missing women." *BMJ: British Medical Journal* 304.6827 (1992): 587.

Clingingsmith, David, Asim Ijaz Khwaja, and Michael Kremer. "Estimating the impact of the Hajj: religion and tolerance in Islam's global gathering." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124.3 (2009): 1133-1170.

Week 13: Why Do Some Parts of South Asia Have Insurgencies?

Seminar: May 5th

Readings:

- Blair, G., Christine Fair, C., Malhotra, N., & Shapiro, J. N. (2013). Poverty and support for militant politics: Evidence from Pakistan. *American Journal of Political Science*, 57(1), 30-48.
- Staniland, Paul. "Organizing insurgency: Networks, resources, and rebellion in South Asia." *International Security* 37.1 (2012): 142-177.
- Chandra, Kanchan, and Omar Garcia-Ponce. "Why Ethnic Subaltern-led Parties Crowd Out Armed Organizations: Explaining Maoist Violence in India." *World Politics* 71.2 (2019): 367-416.
- Trebbi, Francesco, and Eric Weese. "Insurgency and small wars: Estimation of unobserved coalition structures." *Econometrica* 87.2 (2019): 463-496.