

Old Dominion University
Department of History
HIS396: Islam in South Asia, 700 to the Present
Fall 2017: M/W/F, 1-1:50 PM

Instructor: Nicholas Abbott

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Course Description: This course surveys the formation and development of Muslim states, societies, and cultures in South Asia, from the arrival of Islam in the early eighth century until the present. Focusing on the areas comprising the modern nation-states of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh, the course will consider the specific histories of Muslims living in South Asia and the region's history within the larger Islamic world. Topics will include, among others: the formation and spread of Islam; Islam and Indian Ocean trade; conversion to Islam; relations between Muslims and non-Muslims; medieval and early modern Muslim states; Muslim responses to European colonialism; religious reform, nationalist, and pan-Islamist movements; decolonization and partition; and post-colonial states and societies.

Course Objectives:

- To familiarize students with the history of Muslim states, societies, and cultures in South Asia
- To connect the history of South Asia with that of the larger Islamic world
- To build critical reading and writing skills
- To develop methods of historical analysis through interpretation of primary sources

Required Texts:

- Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy*, Routledge, ISBN-13: 978-0415779432, ISBN-10: 041577943X [**MSA**]
- Michael Fisher, *A Short History of the Mughal Empire*, I.B. Tauris, ISBN-13: 978-1848858732, ISBN-10: 1848858736 [**TME**]
- Peter Hardy, *The Muslims of British India*, Cambridge, ISBN-13: 978-0521097833, ISBN-10: 0521097833 [**MBI**]

*Additional readings will be posted to Blackboard

Course Requirements: Successful completion of this course requires regularly attending class lectures and participating in classroom discussion, reading all assigned textbooks and additional primary sources thoroughly and completely, and earning passing grades on primary source response essays and midterm and final exams.

Grade Distribution:

Grading is out of 1000 possible points

Midterm Exam	20% (200 pts)
Final Exam	30% (300 pts)
Response Essay #1	15% (150 pts)
Response Essay #2	20% (200 pts)
Attendance and Participation	15% (150 pts)

Assessment and Assignment Descriptions:

- **Exams:** Exams will consist of take-home essays in which students will choose two questions from a list of three and write one well organized essay of approximately 1,000 words for each question. Exam questions will be distributed one week prior to the due date. **The midterm exam is due Monday, Oct. 16 and the final exam is due Monday, Dec. 11.** Exams should be submitted both in hardcopy in class and electronically to Blackboard. Exams should be double-spaced and written in 12pt Times New Roman font or a near equivalent, and students should clearly indicate which essay questions they are answering. Hardcopies should be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. **Failure to follow these formatting and submission guidelines will result in a deduction of one letter grade from the total exam grade.** Additional guidelines will be distributed with the essay prompts.
- **Primary Source Response Essays:** Students will write two essays responding to questions about different primary source readings. For the first response paper, **due Monday, Sep. 25**, students will choose between two different sources (either Ibn Battuta or Ziya-ud-din Barani) and write an essay of 750 words (approximately three double-spaced pages) answering a question about the respective reading. For the second response paper, **due Monday, Nov. 6**, students will write an essay of 1000-1250 words (approximately four to five pages) answering a question that compares and contrasts readings by Sayyid Ahmad Khan and Ashraf Ali Thanvi. Response papers should be submitted both in hardcopy in class and electronically. Response papers should be double-spaced and written in 12pt Times New Roman font or a near equivalent, and hardcopies should be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. **Failure to follow these formatting and submission guidelines will result in a deduction of one letter grade from the total response paper grade.** Additional guidelines will be distributed later in the semester

Response Paper #1 Questions:

- How does Ibn Battuta perceive and portray the piety and social practice of Muslims in the Maldives?

OR

- What does Ziya-ud-din Barani think about Muslim kings? Why are kings necessary for Muslim society?

Response Paper #2 Question:

- Compare and contrast the views of Sayyid Ahmad Khan and Ashraf Ali Thanvi on education for modern Muslims. What kind of education is important for Muslims and why? What role does gender play in education?
- **Attendance and Participation:** To receive full credit for attendance and participation, students must each attend each class, participate actively, and complete any supplemental Blackboard assignments. Active participation entails coming to class having read all assigned readings carefully and in full; remaining engaged and attentive throughout lecture; and contributing voluntarily to classroom discussion. Students will be permitted ONE unexcused absence; **each additional absence without prior approval from the instructor and/or subsequent documentation will result in the deduction of one percent from your final grade.**

Policies:

- **Decorum:** Students should make a point to arrive on time. If you have to arrive late or leave early, please enter or exit the room quietly and avoid disrupting lecture or classroom discussion. **Rude, disrespectful, or disruptive language or behavior will not be tolerated.** Students who fail to abide by these rules will be asked to leave and will forfeit the day's attendance and participation points.
- **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones should remain silenced and put away for the ENTIRETY of class. **Students who have their phones out in class will forfeit all of their attendance and participation points for that day.** Students MAY use tablets and/or laptop computers to take notes. However, if I see that they are being used for anything other than note-taking, I will ask them to be put away.
- **Email Etiquette:** Courteous email communication is critical to academic and professional success. I strongly encourage students to email me promptly with any questions or concerns but I insist that you do so in a polite and formal manner. **Rude or slapdash emails will not receive a response.** These include: emails beginning with the word "Hey" or written with text message informality; emails written with run-on sentences, spelling and/or grammatical errors, and/or numerous typos; or emails containing no information in the subject line or line breaks in blocks of text. Additionally, make sure to consult the syllabus before sending an email; answers to many potential questions are contained inside

Below is a template you should follow for email communication with your instructors:

Subject line:

Question about this week's readings [**Have a clear subject for your email**]

Body of the email:

Dear Dr./Prof. So-and-so [**Use formal titles**]

My name is ... and I am a student in your ... class. [**Introduce yourself and, if relevant, your relationship to the recipient. This is especially important the first time you email the recipient**]

I am writing because...[**Explain your question and/or concern clearly and succinctly**]

Could you please...? [**Explain clearly and politely what you want the recipient to do for you**]

Thank you. I appreciate your assistance//consideration/etc. [**Thank the recipient**]

Sincerely,
Your Name

[Make sure there are line breaks between each section. If sections run long, consider breaking them into multiple paragraphs. Avoid paragraphs of more than four or five lines; they are difficult to read. PROOFREAD BEFORE SENDING!]

- **Late Work/Extensions/Make-up Exams:** Written work is due on the date assigned. Late work will receive a deduction of one letter grade for each day (including weekends) it is submitted after the due date. **No extensions or make-up exams will be administered**, except in cases of documented emergency.
- **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic failure of the course. The ODU catalogue defines plagiarism as follows: "A student will have committed plagiarism if he or she produces someone else's work without acknowledging its source; or if a source is cited which the student has not cited or used. Examples of plagiarism include: submitting a research paper obtained from a commercial research service, the Internet, or from another student as if it were original work; making simple changes to borrowed materials while leaving the organization, content, or phraseology intact; or copying material from a source, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks. Plagiarism also occurs in a group project if one or more of the members of the group does none of the group's work and participates in none of the group's activities, but attempts to take credit for the work group." If you have questions or concerns about plagiarism, please see me BEFORE

submitting dubious work. **When in doubt, indicate language that is not your own with quotation marks and cite ALL sources used in your work.**

*****Note for Students with Disabilities:** Old Dominion University is committed to ensuring equal access to all qualified students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Office of Educational Accessibility (OEA) is the campus office that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

- If you experience a disability which will impact your ability to access any aspect of my class, please present me with an accommodation letter from OEA so that we can work together to ensure that appropriate accommodations are available to you
- If you feel that you will experience barriers to your ability to learn and/or testing in my class but do not have an accommodation letter, please consider scheduling an appointment with OEA to determine if academic accommodations are necessary.

The Office of Educational Accessibility is located at 1021 Student Success Center and their phone number is (757)683-4655. Additional information is available at the OEA website: <http://www.odu.edu/educationalaccessibility/>

Class Schedule¹

NB: Readings are to be completed by the date under which they are indicated.

Week 1	Monday, 8/28	Wednesday, 8/30	Friday, 9/1
	Syllabus and Course Introduction	Geography of S. Asia and the Islamic World Asher and Talbot, <i>India Before Europe</i> , 1-24	Origins and Expansion of Islam Silverstein, <i>Islamic History</i> , 9-19
Week 2	Monday, 9/4	Wednesday, 9/6	Friday, 9/8
	No Class: Labor Day	The Abbasid Empire Silverstein, <i>Islamic History</i> , 20-26	Islamic Institutions CI IV, Berkey, "Islam," 17-59; Hallaq "Islamic Law," 142-83

¹ Schedule of lecture topics subject to change.

Week 3	Monday, 9/11	Wednesday, 9/13	Friday, 9/15
	<p>Islam and the Indian Ocean</p> <p>CI III, Pearson, "Islamic trade...in the Indian Ocean," 315-65</p>	<p>Caliphs and Sultans, Turks and Mongols</p> <p>Lapidus, <i>History of Islamic Societies</i>, 177-87, 197-207</p>	<p>Sufism</p> <p>CI IV, Knysh, "Sufism," 60-104</p> <p>Primary Source: Qawwali Songs</p>
Week 4	M, 9/18	W, 9/20	F, 9/22
	<p>Ghaznavids and Ghurids</p> <p>CHI III, Wink, "The early expansion of Islam in India," 78-99</p>	<p>South Asian Sultanates</p> <p>CHI III, Jackson, "Muslim India: the Delhi Sultanates," 100-27</p> <p>Primary Sources: Ibn Battuta, Ziya-ud-din Barani</p>	<p>Conversion to Islam</p> <p>MSA: 18-27</p> <p>CH III, Bulliet, "Conversion to Islam," 529-38</p> <p>Eaton, "The Shrine of Baba Farid," 263-84</p>
Week 5	Monday, 9/25	Wednesday, 9/27	Friday, 9/29
	<p>The Timurids</p> <p>CHI III, Maria Subtelny, "Tamerlane and his descendants," 169-200</p> <p>Response Essay #1 Due</p>	<p>The Mughals: Babur and Humayun</p> <p>MSA: 28-38; TME: 15-72</p>	<p>The Mughals: Akbar</p> <p>TME: 73-142</p> <p>Primary Source: Abdul-Qadir Badauni</p>

Week 6	Monday, 10/2	Wednesday, 10/4	Friday, 10/6
	<p>The Mughals: Jahangir and Shah Jahan</p> <p>TME: 143-208</p>	<p>The Mughals: Aurangzeb</p> <p>Chandra, "Religious Policy of Aurangzeb," 461-80</p>	<p>Islam in the Mughal Empire</p> <p>TME: 226-40; MBI: 1-30</p>
Week 7	Monday, 10/9	Wednesday, 10/11	Friday, 10/13
	<p>No Class: Fall Break</p>	<p>Non-Muslims and the Mughal Empire</p> <p>Kinra, "Master and Munshi," 521-67</p>	<p>Mughal Decline</p> <p>MSA: 39-45; TME: 209-25</p>
Week 8	Monday, 10/16	Wednesday, 10/18	Friday, 10/20
	<p>Sh'ism and Non-Sunni Islam(s)</p> <p>Midterm Exam Due</p>	<p>Rise of the EIC and Islam under British rule</p> <p>MSA: 46-61</p>	<p>Reaction and Revivalism</p> <p>MSA: 62-71; MBI: 31-60</p>
Week 9	Monday, 10/23	Wednesday, 10/25	Friday, 10/27
	<p>1857</p> <p>MSA: 72-88; MBI: 61-91</p> <p>Primary Source: Azamgarh Proclamation</p>	<p>No Lecture</p> <p>Watch <i>Shatranj ke khiladi</i></p> <p>(Available from Perry Library Help Desk; Call No. PN1997.I4 S53 1977)</p>	<p>No Lecture</p> <p>Finish <i>Shatranj ke khiladi</i></p> <p>Complete film response questions on Blackboard by classtime, Monday 10/30</p>

Week 10	Monday, 10/30	Wednesday, 11/1	Friday, 11/3
	Islam and Social Reform MBI: 92-115 Primary Sources: Sayyid Ahmad Khan and Ashraf Ali Thanvi	Islam and Indian Nationalism MSA: 89-103; MBI: 116-46	The Partition of Bengal and the Khilafat Movement MSA: 104-21; MBI:147-97
Week 11	Monday, 11/6	Wednesday, 11/8	Friday, 11/10
	Growth of Communalism MSA: 122-29; MBI: 198-221 Response Paper #2 Due	The Idea of Pakistan Venkat Dhulipala, “Debating Pakistan in late colonial India,” 377-405 Primary Sources: Muhammad Iqbal and Rahmat Ali	The Road to Partition MSA: 130-36; MBI 222-55 Primary Source: Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Parts I and II
Week 12	Monday, 11/13	Wednesday, 11/15	Friday, 11/17
	Partition and its Aftermath MSA: 137-68	Film: <i>Garam Hawa</i> (Complete outside class: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzO1EIEG_fc)	Discussion: <i>Garam Hawa</i>
Week 13	Monday, 11/20	Wednesday, 11/22	Friday, 11/24
	Pakistan, 1947-71 MSA: 169-83 Primary Source: Munir Report	No Class: Thanksgiving	No Class: Thanksgiving

Week 14	Monday, 11/27	Wednesday, 11/29	Friday, 12/1
	<p>Islamism in S. Asia</p> <p>CI VI, Voll, "Reform and Modernism," 148-72, and Arjomand, "Islamic Resurgence," 173-97</p> <p>Primary Source: Abu'l Ala al-Mawdudi</p>	<p>Pakistan, 1971-Present</p> <p>CI IV, Nasr, "South Asia from 1919," 558-90</p>	<p>Bangladesh to Present</p> <p>Talbot, "Bangladesh since Independence," 210-225</p>
Week 15	Monday, 12/4	Wednesday, 12/6	Friday, 12/8
	<p>Communalism in Post-Colonial India</p> <p>MSA: 184-204</p>	<p>Afghanistan and Kashmir</p> <p>CI IV, Shahrani, "Afghanistan," 203-11, 542-57</p>	<p>Islam in S. Asia Today</p>
Final exam due by 12PM (noon) on Monday, Dec. 11			