

SAS 2004HS: ISSUES in SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Spring 2008, South Asian Studies, University of Toronto

Course Web Page: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/~w3hmlmil/SAS2004S2008.pdf>

Course CCNet page: <https://ccnet.utoronto.ca/20081/sas2004hs/>

Dr. Heather M.-L. Miller

Office: 208 North Building, UTM (or 269 South Bldg., Munk Centre, St. George)

Phone: UTM: 905-828-3741 (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & some Mondays)

St. George: 416-946-8988 (Fridays)

Email: heather.miller@utoronto.ca (*always use email for messages!*)

Class meeting : Fridays 12-2, Rm. 313, Innis College (Old Building), St. George

Office Hour at St. George: by appointment , 269 South, Munk Centre, St. George

(As I am on several hiring committees this term, my schedule varies from week to week. I hope to be available Friday afternoons most weeks, but please make an appointment for any urgent meetings.)

Course Description

This course is the required interdisciplinary core course for the Collaborative Program in South Asian Studies. As such, it will provide students with an understanding of the breadth of research in South Asia across a variety of disciplines. To achieve this, students will interact with a representative sample of professors at the U of T who will provide examples of different research topics, methods, and presentation approaches. This breadth of research will be cross-cut by a focus on the development of each student's own research and writing skills, through a series of writing projects on grant proposal writing and reviewing, and on summaries of students' research topics. These writing projects will be designed to encourage writing that is intelligible across disciplines, but also will be oriented towards material most appropriate to the student's own program.

Readings

--Each weekly presenter will assign readings for their portion of the course. Most should be available on CCNet. Be sure to look at BOTH the box on the Schedule AND the information in the References list.

--For the grant portion of the course, read all on-line information for all applicable grants. Additional appropriate material will be posted on or linked from CCNet after the first meeting, once the range of student proposals becomes clear.

Course Requirements and Grading Total course mark is 100% = 400 points

[1] 20% (80 points) of the course mark will be based on participation in class. This includes class attendance, involvement in class discussion, and **weekly written submission** of 1-2 page statements on the assigned readings.

[2] 50% (200 points) for Writing Project 1: Grant Proposal Writing. 25% for helpful critical comments on other students' initial proposals, and 25% for your own final grant proposal packet, in part based on improvement from the first draft. See [handout](#) for details.

[3] 30% (120 points) for Writing Project 2: EITHER a polished summary of student's own research in progress for their degree program, a summary that would be intelligible across disciplinary lines, OR students may elect to write an (imaginary) collaborative grant proposal, based in part on ideas from faculty presentations about their own research. **Choice of writing project required by midterm.**

Class Schedule

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Topics</u> | <u>Readings & Assigned Work</u> <i>(finish BEFORE class starts)</i> |
|-------------|--|--|
| Jan. 11 | Introductory Class <u>Themes:</u> Class Introductions; Discussion of Assignments | <i>Please look at the CSAS list of faculty members, and read about each speaker BEFORE their class.</i> |
| Jan. 18 | <u>Speaker:</u> Heather M.-L. Miller (instructor) <u>Themes:</u> Writing & Reviewing Proposals; Research Methods; Research in South Asia (or with Diasporas outside of Canada) | (1) Becker 1986 or 2007 (2nd ed.): Preface, Ch.1, 2, and 3 (2) Lohmann 2006 (3) Barrett & Cason 1997: selection |
| Jan. 25 | First DRAFT of PROPOSALS DUE <u>Speaker:</u> Heather M.-L. Miller (instructor) <u>Themes:</u> Writing & Research continued; Research Ethics | (1) Becker 1986 or 2007 (2nd ed.): Ch. 4, 6, 7, and 8. (2) Becker 1998: selection (3) Interagency Secretariat on Research Ethics 2005: selections |
| Feb. 1 | <u>Speaker:</u> Chelva Kanaganayakam , English <u>Themes:</u> South Asian Writing in English: Problems & Perspectives | (1) Ahmad 1992 |
| Feb. 8 | REVIEWS of PROPOSALS DUE <u>Speaker:</u> Heather M.-L. Miller , Anthropology <u>Themes:</u> Archaeology and Politics in South Asia: Harappan and Indo-Aryan Identities via material culture, linguistics, and biology | (1) Schaffer & Lichtenstein 1989 (2) Erdosy 1995 (3) Kennedy 2000: selection |
| Feb. 15 | <u>Speaker:</u> Thomas McIntire , Religion <u>Themes:</u> Christianity in India; What is 'foreign' and what is 'South Asian?' Selections from The Acts of Thomas, accessed at www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actsthomas.html : St Thomas' presence. | (1) Barrett <i>et al.</i> 2001: selected tables (2) Acts of Thomas (link to left) (3) Prospectus, Indian School of Ecumenical Theology, Bangalore |
| Feb. 22 | <i>No Class: Reading Week</i> | |
| Feb. 29 | <u>Speaker:</u> Kenneth McDonald , Geography, International Development, and Centre for Diaspora & Transnational Studies <u>Themes:</u> Politics of Cultural Identity in Pakistan | (1) Hoodbhoy 2006 (see link + note in References, below) (2) Jaffrelot 2002 (3) Khan 2005 (4) MacDonald 2006 (5) Toor 2005 |
| Mar. 7 | FINAL PROPOSALS DUE <u>Speaker:</u> Ajay Rao , Religion and Historical Studies <u>Themes:</u> South Asia as a Civilizational Site | (1) Ludden 1994 (2) Pollock 1995 |
| Mar. 14 | <u>Speaker:</u> Arthur Rubinoff , Political Science <u>Themes:</u> The Fragmentation of the Indian Political System | (1) TBA |
| Mar. 21 | <i>No Class: University Closed (Good Friday holiday)</i> | |
| Mar. 28 | <u>Speaker:</u> Naisargi (Nais) Dave , Anthropology <u>Themes:</u> Ethics in the anthropology of ethics: notes from research on queer politics in India | (1) Dave in press |
| April 4 | <u>Speaker:</u> Sanjukta Mukherjee , "Markets and Modernities" Post-Doctoral Scholar, Asian Institute <u>Themes:</u> Geography, political economy, development | (1) Mukherjee in press (2) TBA |

| | | |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|
| April 11 | <u>Speaker:</u> Heather M.-L. Miller (instructor) <u>Themes:</u> Final Class Summary; last discussion of grant proposal and research summary writing | Review readings for Jan. 18 & 25 |
| | <u>FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE</u> by April 18 (Friday) | |

References

Ahmad, Aijaz, 1992. *In Theory: classes, nations, literatures*. Verso, London.

Read Chapter 7 (pp. 243-285): "Indian Literature: Notes Towards the Definition of a Category"

Barrett, David, et al., eds. 2001. *Statistics from the World Christian Encyclopedia, A Comparative Survey of Churches and Religions in the Modern World*. Volume 1. Oxford University Press, New York.

Selected tables as provided.

Becker, Howard S. 1986. *Writing for Social Scientists. How to start and finish your thesis, book, or article*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. OR

Becker, Howard S. 2007. *Writing for Social Scientists. How to start and finish your thesis, book, or article*. Second edition. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

You will be asked to get this book from the library or buy it (it only costs \$12.25 new), as we will read multiple chapters. Only the first chapter is available on CCNet. It is very useful for writers in the Humanities as well as the Social Sciences.

You can read either edition (the main difference is in the last chapter, which will not be assigned).

Barrett, Christopher B. and Jeffrey W. Cason, 1997, *Overseas Research: A Practical Guide*. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore.

Selection to be announced & posted.

Becker, Howard S. 1998. *Tricks of the Trade. How to think about your research while you're doing it*.

University of Chicago Press, Chicago. **Read the Preface and Chapter 1: Tricks, pp. ix-xi, 1-9.**

Dave, Naisargi, In press. Between Queer Ethics and Sexual Morality. *Sarai Reader*.

Erdosy, George, 1995. Language, material culture and ethnicity: Theoretical perspectives. *The Indo-Aryans in Ancient South Asia: Language, Material Culture and Ethnicity*, edited by G. Erdosy, pp. 1-31. W. DeGruyter, Berlin.

Guha-Thakurta, Tapati, 1992. *The Making of a New "Indian" Art: artists, aesthetics, and nationalism in Bengal, c. 1850-1920*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. **Read section: Artists and aesthetics: Abanindranath Tagore and the 'New School of Indian Painting', pp. 185-312.**

Hoodbhoy, Pervez. 2006. Re-Imagining Pakistan: Mr. Jinnah's Pakistan isn't Working. What Can? *Chowk*. Posted Dec. 13, 2006. (Commencement lecture by Pervez Hoodbhoy at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, 9 December 2006.) <http://www.chowk.com/articles/11454>

There is a small assignment for this article: When you have finished reading Hoodbhoy's article, which clearly calls for a liberal basis for identity production in Pakistan, please read a selection of the earlier comments posted to the website. Read selected contributions from a variety of correspondents and identify some of the ideological bases of support for and opposition against Hoodbhoy's position.

Interagency Secretariat on Research Ethics, 2005. *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans*. On behalf of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Public Works and Government Services, Ottawa, Canada. **Read sections i. and 1.; read introductions to sections 2. and 3.**

Jaffrelot, C. 2002. Introduction: Nationalism without a Nation: Pakistan Searching for Its Identity. In *Pakistan: Nationalism Without A Nation?*, edited by C. Jaffrelot, pp 7-48. Zed Books, London.

Kapur, Geeta, 2000. *When was Modernism: Essays on Contemporary Cultural Practice in India*. Tulika, New Delhi. **Read section: National/Modern: Preliminaries, pp. 283-302.**

Kennedy, Kenneth A. R. 2000. *God-Apes and Fossil Men. Paleoanthropology in South Asia*. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, MI. **Read section: Where Did All the Races Go?, pp. 358-380.**

Khan, Adeel. 2005. *Politics of Identity: Ethnic nationalism and the State in Pakistan*. Sage Publications, Karachi. **Read Chapter 4.**

Lohmann, Roger Ivar, 2006. Field Methods. In *Encyclopedia of Anthropology*, edited by H. James Bix. Volume 3, pp. 962-968. Sage Publications, Thousands Oaks, CA.

Ludden, David, 1994. History Outside Civilization and the Mobility of South Asia. *South Asia* XVII(1):1-23.

MacDonald, Kenneth I. 2006. Memories of Tibet: Transnationalism, transculturation and the production of cultural identity in northern Pakistan. *India Review* 5(2) 190-219.

Pollock, Sheldon. 1995 (Oct-Dec). Literary History, Indian History, World History. *Social Scientist* 23(10/12): 112-142.

Shaffer, Jim G. & Diane A. Lichtenstein, 1989. Ethnicity and Change in the Indus Valley Cultural Tradition. In *Old Problems and New Perspectives in the Archaeology of South Asia*, edited by J. M. Kenoyer, pp. 117-126. Madison, WI: Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.

Toor, Saadia, 2005. A national culture for Pakistan: the political economy of a debate. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 6(3), 318-340.