**History 243: SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY AND CIVILIZATIONS  
Spring 2017  
Dr. Tithi Bhattacharya**

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Tithi Bhattacharya   
Office: University Hall 309   
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 10:30 am to 11:30 am and by appointment   
E-mail: [tbhattac@purdue.edu](mailto:tbhattac@purdue.edu)

Class Hours and Room Number:  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 am to 10:15 am, UNIV 301  
  
Required Text:   
Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy*; Third Edition

The book is available at:Amazon

Handouts:  
All handouts will be posted on Blackboard, unless otherwise specified. You are responsible for having a **printed hard copy** of each handout in class with you during lectures.

Policy on Absences

1. All students are expected to attend ALL classes
2. If you are absent from class for an excused reason (other than official university business), you may make up work from that day. Excused absences include doctor’s appointments, medical emergencies, family events such as weddings and funerals, job interviews. In order to be excused you must present DOCUMENTATION supporting the above reasons. I strongly advise you to contact me or one of the T.A.s prior to class for your absence to be excused even on the above grounds. You may do this by phone, email, or in person.
3. Attendance will be taken EVERYDAY. You may have **three** absences, whether excused or unexcused, without penalty. All non‐school‐related absences will result in the loss of one point from the final grade.
4. If you miss class and/or an assignment you absolutely must contact the Professor or the TA to set up an appointment to make up the missed assignment. Please remember it is YOUR responsibility to set up the meeting to make up for missed work.
5. **If you are absent for 10 classes or more you will earn an automatic F for this course**.

Assignments  
You are expected to finish the weekly readings prior to the lecture.  Your grades will be based on one mid-term exam, a final exam and one reaction paper of 4-5 pages. The format of these exams will be explained in more detail before you have to take them.   
  
Mid-term Exam **30%**  
Reaction Paper **25%**  
Final Exam **40%**Attendance, participation **5%**  
pop quizzes, extra credit  
(Weighted)

Policy on Academic Dishonesty  
Purdue University’s Official Academic Dishonesty Policy is applicable to **all** assignments and papers in this course. **Any** instances of cheating or plagiarism, however slight, on **any** assignment or paper will result automatically in a failing grade for the **ENTIRE** course and referral to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. If you have any confusion on this matter please visit the Online Writing Lab on the web for their useful handout on plagiarism.   
**You are always welcome to consult me about your all your assignments.**

Grades  
91-100 (A)  
86-90 (A minus)  
76-85 (B)  
71-75 (B minus)  
61-70 (C)  
56-60 (C minus)  
41-55 (D)  
0-40 (F)

Short Paper due in Class on **Thursday, February 9**

Paper Details: Typed, Times New Roman, 12 point, 4-5 pages, double space.

Primary Sources to write the Response Paper:   
1. Duarte Barbosa, *Description of Vijayanagara* ON BLACKBOARD  
2. English East India Company Letters ON BLACKBOARD  
3. Excerpts from *Jahangirnama*

On the basis of the material covered in your textbook and these primary sources, imagine yourself on the Board of Directors for the English East India Company. You are to compose a letter to Queen Elizabeth I requesting resources to travel to India to the court of Emperor Jahangir. Try to convince the Queen to give you money, men and ships. You need strong arguments as to why the crown should support you.

Tentative Weekly Schedule

**Please note that this schedule and the topics covered are subject to change depending upon a variety of factors. Changes will be announced in class. If you are not able to attend class, it is your responsibility to find out what was covered**

**Week 1**: January 10-12: **Introduction to South Asia**

**Week 2**: January 17-19: **India and Modernity**  
Weekly Reading Bose and Jalal: Chapter 1-3

**Week 3-4**: January 24-Feb. 2 **The Indo Islamic World**

Weekly Readings 1. Bose and Jalal: Chapter 4  
2. Tithi Bhattacharya, “Adventures in Islam,”  
 in *Huffington Post*   
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tithi-bhattacharya/adventures-in-islam-is-th\_b\_8920010.html?

**Week 5**: February 7-9 Discussion of Response Paper

February 8 **Extra Credit for Middle East Talk**  
Short Paper due in class **Thursday, February 9**

**Week 6**: February 14-16 **The World that the East India Company Built**  
Weekly Readings Bose and Jalal: Chapter 5 and 6  
   
**Week 7**: February 21 **Midterm Exam** February 23 **NO CLASS**

**Week 8-9**: Feb. 28- March 9 **Company Raj**Weekly Readings Bose and Jalal: Chapter 7 and 8   
  **March 13-18 Spring Break**

**Week 10**: March 21-23 **The Revolt of 1857**

March 21 **Film: The Rising**

Weekly Readings: 1. Bose and Jalal: Chapter 9

**Week 11**: March 28-30 **Collaboration and Resistance under the Raj**  
Weekly Readings: Bose and Jalal: Chapter 10  
  
**Week 12**: April 4-6 **How Do We Conceive a Nation?**  
Weekly Reading: Bose and Jalal: Chapter 11

**Week 13**: April 11-13 **Wrong Beginnings: The Nation and a Hindu Imagining**  
Tithi Bhattacharya, “Why we need to talk about Hinduisms”  
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tithi-bhattacharya/why-we-need-to-talk-about_b_9852810.html>

**Week 14**: April 18-20 **Gandhi and the Nation**Bose and Jalal: Chapter 12

**Week 15**: April 25-27 Discussion and Review

FINAL EXAM TBA

HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!