Indian Culture and Civilization

**Aims and overview.** This course seeks to introduce historical, religious, cultural and political trajectories of Indian civilization; it also aims to briefly introduce the contours of Indian society to the students. The course covers these aspects from the earliest period to the present. It briefly outlines the vast diversity of Indian languages and literary traditions, classical and folk traditions of India. Additionally, the course also introduces students to contemporary Indian nation and society, by emphasizing how India continues to reinvent itself by returning to its tradition while also opening itself up to global influences. The entire course is covered through lectures, field visits and also supported by film shows. A week-long tour to North Karnataka is also conducted during the course period. The course is divided into five units, as follows: I Placing India in Space and time; II Introduction to Indian philosophical foundation; III Indian history, archaeology and art; IV Indian society and family; V Modern India. The entire course is covered in 25 lectures plus on-site visits and supported film screenings.

**Office hours.** Professor Chandra Shobhi will be available to meet students by appointment either before or after regular class meetings. He can be contacted by email as given above.

**Grading.** The assessment is based on attendance and participation in the classroom and field-trip activities (50 percent) and evaluation of two essays for 25 points each (50 percent). Specific instructions about the essays will be provided in class.

**Recommended and assigned readings:**

- Heehs, Peter. eds *Indian Religions: The Spiritual traditions of South Asia*
- Ludden, David. *India and South Asia: A Short History.*
- Metcalf, Barbara D (eds) 2009. *Islam in South Asia in Practice.* Princeton:
Princeton University Press.

- Narayan, R. K. *Ramayana*.

**Visitors and site visits:**

- Vidwan H V Nagarajarao and PDCS for philosophical and classical literature
- History and archaeology, including field visits – PDCS
- Indian society (unit 4) – P K Mishra and PDCS
- Modern India – Muzaffar Assadi and PDCS

**Online resources (check for a detailed, annotated list of online resources):**

- [http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/southasia/](http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/southasia/)
- [http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/mapframset.htm](http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/mapframset.htm)
- [http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/slideshowframeset.htm](http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/slideshowframeset.htm)
- [http://www.columbia.edu/itc/mealac/pritchett/00fwp/#fwp](http://www.columbia.edu/itc/mealac/pritchett/00fwp/#fwp)
- [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/india/indiasbook.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/india/indiasbook.html)
- [http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~malaiya/ashoka.html](http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~malaiya/ashoka.html)
- [http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/ShortHistFrameset.htm](http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/ShortHistFrameset.htm)
- [http://www.penn.museum/research-asian-section/640-vijayanagara-research-project.html](http://www.penn.museum/research-asian-section/640-vijayanagara-research-project.html)

**Schedule**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Class Room Lectures</th>
<th>Field Visits/ Film Show</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No of Hours</td>
<td>No of Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit – I</td>
<td>Placing India in Space and time</td>
<td>5 lectures</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit – II</td>
<td>Introduction to Indian Philosophical Foundation</td>
<td>4 lectures</td>
<td>6 hours 2 to religious place= 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit – III</td>
<td>Indian history, archaeology and art</td>
<td>5 lectures</td>
<td>6 hours 2 to religious place= 12 hours (on site Lectures NK 6 days 3 hrs per day = 18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit – IV</td>
<td>Indian Society and Family</td>
<td>4 lectures</td>
<td>6 hours (Village Visit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit – V</td>
<td>Modern India</td>
<td>5 lectures 2 per hour</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **28 Hours** | **54** |

**Total Hours** | **82**
ADDITIONAL COLLEGIATE COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

Administrative Home
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

Electronic Communication
*University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (Operations Manual, **III.15.2.** Scroll down to k.11.)*

Accommodations for Disabilities
A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/ for more information.

Academic Fraud
Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Academic Fraud section of the *Student Academic Handbook.*

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint
Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS *Student Academic Handbook.*

Understanding Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI *Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment* for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.