

1. Ethnic Conflict-the South Asian experience

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A note about this course

The course proposes to develop an understanding of the different contexts within which ethnic conflicts have occurred in the South Asian countries like India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. For this, the course would primarily consider selected literary narratives available from the South Asian countries and familiarize students with the texts which deal with issues and concerns that erupt ethnic or communal violence. The approach of the course would then be to examine the ways in which the state and international organisations have been trying to manage and resolve these conflicts and how best cultural representations could be used to mediate the conflict situations. The course would deal cursorily with the themes of ethnic difference and multiculturalism, ethnicity and religion, ethnic cleansing and genocide, migration and ethnic violence, conflict management and conflict resolution and third party intervention in building peace.

Course Duration: 60 hours

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course will be to

- develop an understanding of race and ethnicity
- familiarise with the socio-political context of the conflict zones
- recognise the power relations embedded in the socio-cultural milieu
- locate and analyse the challenges that disrupt equity and empowerment of ethnic minorities
- explore how resistance is expressed through cultural and aesthetic expressions of the underrepresented
- create an awareness of social responsibility and social justice

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the students must be able to

- critically think and examine issues related to race and ethnicity
- interpret and describe the cultural and aesthetic expressions of the ethnic groups
- address the question of identity(s), resistance and protest movements
- relate to the issues of social justice emerging out of inequalities in ethnic communities

MODULES

I. Perspectives on identity, race and ethnicity **15 hours**

- Race and ethnicity as concepts of social scientific enquiry
- Ethnic politics and mobilization
- Race in colonial administration, democracy and authoritarian regimes,
- Racial and ethnic politics in South Asia
- Genocide and ethnic cleansing
- Diasporas and transnationalism

II: Understanding Cultures of South Asia **15 hours**

- Literature(s) of South Asia-novels, short stories, poems, blogs.
- Arts and Material Culture of South Asia – Sculpture, Performing Arts, Painting, Architecture, Folklore, Folk arts.
- Media and Society in South Asia
- Religions of South Asia

III: Ethnic Conflict in South Asia **15 hours**

- Voices of resistance in India-the Kashmir Issue, Dalit movement, the Northeast Question, land and resources conflict
- Becoming and staying refugees-the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh
- Crucible of Conflict-nationalism(s) in Sri Lanka
- Narratives of dominance versus resistance- Stories of conflict from Balochistan

IV: Building Peace **15 hours**

- Peace processes in South Asia
- Metaphors of reconciliation-Gandhi"s Satyagraha, Truth Commission in South Africa Nelson Mandela
- Role of Women in peace building
- Media and theatre in building peace
- Understanding combatants and facilitating dialogues
- Civil society and the peace building process
- Cultural therapy

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4. Nationalism, The Mass Army and Military Power by Barry Posen.
5. Ethnic Conflicts in South Asia: A Constructivist Reading by Shibashis

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhJJDeoDC3s>
19. Kashmir The Story | Full Documentary On The History & Timelines Of Kashmir Valley <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SuNPI6Y6K8>
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22. Kashmir The Story | Full Documentary On The History & Timelines Of Kashmir Valley <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SuNPI6Y6K8>
23. Naga Women Making a difference: peace Building in Northeast India https://genderandsecurity.org/sites/default/files/Naga_W_Making_a_Difference_pblgdg_in_NE_India.pdf
24. The Rohingya Crisis
https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/rohingya_en.pdf
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<https://www.equalrightstrust.org/ertdocumentbank/Rohingya%20Briefing%20Report.pdf>
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