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HIST 103-01, Gandhi: Nonviolent Resistance and Revolution in Colonial India. Fall 1998

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SYLLABUS

Gandhi: Nonviolent Resistance and Revolution in Colonial India
History 103
Rhodes College
Fall semester 1998

Professor Lynn Zastoupil
Office: Clough 307
Office Hours: MWF 10:15-11:15 (and by appointment)
Telephone: 3654, 276-0940 (home)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to the nature of historical investigation by focusing on the life and thought of Mohandas Gandhi. Students will be exposed to the process of interpreting historical documents and constructing a historical narrative of events. In this way students should leave this course with a better appreciation of what it is that historians do when they research and write historical works. It is also expected that students will arrive at a solid understanding of the historical events surrounding the life of Gandhi, a major figure in twentieth century world history.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course will be conducted as if it were a seminar. Students will be expected to complete all readings on time and to be fully prepared to participate in class discussions based on those readings. Those who find it difficult to participate actively in class discussions may submit a journal of the assigned readings to be graded. There will be two short essays, one due in mid-October and the other at the end of the semester. The first essay will be analytical and a topic will be assigned for it; the second one will require integration of course materials and the service-learning component of the course (discussed below). Both assignments must be handed in by class time on the date specified; all late papers will be automatically reduced by one letter grade. Grades will be determined as follows: class participation - 25%; first essay - 30%; second essay - 20%; final examination - 25%. All written work will be evaluated on the basis of a combination of factors, including style, content, coherence, mastery of the subject and number and nature of sources consulted.

SERVICE-LEARNING

This course has a mandatory service-learning component. This will entail community service activities for the entire class (including the professor) at three different periods during the course of the semester. In late September we will twice serve at the Rhodes soup kitchen (Tuesdays, 4-6 pm); on October 31 we will help build the Rhodes College Habitat for Humanity home (two shifts, 9-12 or 1-5); and on November 18 we will assist in the annual Oxfam fast and fund-raiser (in addition, we will attend the Interfaith circle on that same day to hear Arun Gandhi--grandson of M. K. Gandhi--speak on the issue of fasting). In addition, we will keep an on-line collective "journal" of our service-learning activities and of relevant course readings; all students are required to read, and contribute entries to, this journal

throughout the semester. The point of all this is to combine the academic material that we learn in the classroom with practical service to the larger community in which we live. Since Gandhi himself was a great advocate of serving one's community, and preferred practical education to bookish learning, this service-learning component is a natural fit for this particular course. Similar service-learning courses are being offered in many different disciplines on this campus, all of which are being coordinated by Billy Newton, the Rhodes chaplain. Those interested in knowing more about service-learning in general should contact the chaplain's office.

The service-learning component of this course will culminate in a written essay that will be graded. This essay can take a variety of forms: it could be a reflective essay that cogently relates the issues raised in the course readings to our experiences serving the Memphis community; also welcome would be an essay that weaves together, say, materials in the course readings relating to Gandhi's fasts and analysis of the origins and impact of the Oxfam program. All essays will be graded on the basis of quality of ideas, clarity of thought and organization, and familiarity with relevant course materials.

BOOKS TO PURCHASE

Louis Fischer, The Life of Mahatma Gandhi
Mohandas Gandhi, An Autobiography
M. Gandhi, Hind Swaraj, ed. A. Parel
R. Mukherjee, ed., The Penguin Gandhi Reader
S. Hay, ed. Sources of Indian Tradition, vol. 2
Lloyd Rudolph and Susanne Rudolph, Gandhi: The Traditional Roots of Charisma
Mark Shephard, Gandhi Today
R. Marius, A Short Guide to Writing about History, 2nd ed.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week I: Introduction

Aug. 26 Introduction and Service-Learning
Aug. 28 Gandhi Movie

Week II: Images of Gandhi

Aug. 30 Gandhi Movie
Sept. 2 Gandhi Movie
Sept. 4 Images of the Mahatma (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 1; V. Mehta, Mahatma

Week III: British Imperialism and Gandhi

- Sept. 7 Labor Day recess
Sept. 9 British Raj and cultural imperialism (Macaulay, "Minute on Indian
Sept. 11 Gandhi's early education (Gandhi, Autobiography, pp. 1-41; Fischer,

Educatio

Week IV: Gandhi's Early Life

- Sept. 14 Gandhi in London (Gandhi, Autobiography, pp. 42-83; Fischer, _____
Sept. 16 Gandhi and cultural imperialism (Gandhi, Autobiography, pp. 87-99;
Sept. 18 Gandhi in South Africa (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 6-15)

Gandhi,

Week V: Gandhi's Transformation

- Sept. 21 Gandhi's transformation (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 9, 13 [re-read];
Sept. 23 Hind Swaraj: Modern Civilization (Gandhi, Hind Swaraj, pp. xiii-xlvi,
Sept. 25 Hind Swaraj: True Civilization (Gandhi, Hind Swaraj, pp. xvii-lxii, 26-29, 42-45,
51-57, 66-99, 112-119, 122 [prison statistics])

Gandhi,

SERVICE-LEARNING: SOUP KITCHEN SEPT. 22, 4-6 PM

Week VI: Indian Nationalism

- Sept. 28 Origins
Sept. 30 Moderates (S. Hay, Sources, pp. 84-96, 113-20)
Oct. 2 Extremists S. Hay, Sources, pp. 128-48; Mukherjee, pp. 39-46)

SERVICE-LEARNING: SOUP KITCHEN SEPT. 29, 4-6 PM

Week VII: Gandhi's Rise to Power and Non-Cooperation

- Oct. 5 Gandhi's rise to power (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 16-17, 19-20; Gandhi, _____
Oct. 7 Non-cooperation (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 24; Gandhi, Autobiography, pp.
Oct. 9 Non-Cooperation (Mukherjee, pp. 46-52, 60-66, 125-56)

Week VIII: Interpreting Non-Cooperation/Satyagraha; Indian Muslims

- Oct. 12 Religious issues (Gandhi, Autobiography, pp. 204-214 [re-read];
Oct. 14 Social and Political implications (Rudolphs [remainder of book]; E.
Oct. 16 Muslims and British India (Hay, Sources, pp. 173-77, 180-83)

Rudolph

FIRST ESSAY DUE AT CLASS TIME ON OCTOBER 16

Week IX: Islamic Revival, Communalism and Gandhi

- Oct. 19 Fall recess
Oct. 21 World War One and Khilafat Movement (Hay, Sources, pp. 195-204)
Oct. 23 Communalism and Gandhi (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 25-28; Mukherjee, pp.

Week X: Civil Disobedience

- Oct. 26 Political background
Oct. 28 Salt March (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 29-31; Gandhi, Non-Violent
Oct. 30 Civil disobedience and Round Table Conferences (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap.

Resistan

SERVICE-LEARNING: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT OCT. 31 (9-12 OR 1-5)

Week XI: Untouchability

- Nov. 2 The Untouchables of India
Nov. 4 Ambedkar (J.M. Mahar, ed., Untouchables in Contemporary India, Chap.
Nov. 6 Gandhi and Untouchability (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 34-35; Gandhi, Non-

Week XII: World War Two

- Nov. 9 1930s
Nov. 11 Muslim Separatism (Hay, Sources, pp. 205-35)
Nov. 13 India and World War Two (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 36-38;)

Week XIII: Quit India and End of Empire

Nov. 16 Quit India campaign (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 39; Gandhi, Hind Swaraj, pp.

Nov. 18 India's Revolution (F. Hutchins, India's Revolution, Chap. 8-9 [on

Nov. 20 End of Empire and Partition (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 40-43; Mukherjee,

reserve]
pp. 268-

SERVICE-LEARNING: OXFAM FAST AND INTERFAITH CIRCLE (7-9 PM), BOTH ON NOV. 18

Week XIV: Gandhi's Finest Hour

Nov. 23 Gandhi and Partition (Fischer, Gandhi, Chap. 44-50; Mukherjee, pp.

Nov. 25, 27 Thanksgiving recess

277-83)

Week XV: Gandhi's Legacy

Nov. 30 Nehru's vision (Gandhi, Hind Swaraj, pp. 149-56; J. Nehru, Toward

Dec. 2 Ambedkar's vision (B. R. Ambedkar, What Congress and Gandhi Have Done

Dec. 4 Disciples and non-disciples (M. Shephard, Gandhi Today, Chap. 1-4;

Freedom

Week XVI: Gandhi's Legacy (cont.)

Dec. 7 Gandhi's influence outside India

Dec. 9 Review

SERVICE-LEARNING ESSAY DUE AT CLASS TIME, DEC. 9