

# SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

## College of Liberal & Creative Arts

Dean: Andrew Harris

### South Asian Studies Program

Ethnic Studies and Psychology Building, Room 411

Phone: (415) 405-0389

Co-Coordinator: Falu Bakrania, Ethnic Studies

Humanities Building, Room 437

Phone: (415) 338-3128

Co-Coordinator: Kasturi Ray, Women and Gender Studies

### Program Scope

South Asian Studies is the focus of this minor. South Asia refers to Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. These countries are members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The South Asian Studies minor is multidisciplinary and is designed to provide students with a broad understanding of the culture, history, economics, and politics of South Asia and its diaspora. The region of South Asia is a crucial area of study given its linguistic, ethnic, and religious diversity (its traditions draw from Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, and Christianity), its experience of British colonial rule and independence, its recent economic expansion and technological influence globally, and the widespread migration of South Asians over the last century. The study of South Asia thus offers students opportunities to explore pressing questions concerning colonialism and nationalism, political conflict and government, economic liberalization, cultural diversity and its expression in literature, art, and popular culture, and globalization.

The region of South Asia is a crucial area of study given its linguistic, ethnic, and religious diversity (its traditions draw from Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, and Christianity), its experience of British colonial rule and independence, its recent economic expansion and technological influence globally, and the widespread migration of South Asians over the last century. The study of South Asia thus offers students opportunities to explore pressing questions concerning colonialism and nationalism, political conflict and government, economic liberalization, cultural diversity and its expression in literature, art, and popular culture, and globalization.

The South Asian Studies minor is useful for students planning careers in education, social service, law, politics, government, business, media, and art, both nationally and internationally. It also prepares students for graduate study in a number of academic fields.

### South Asian Studies Minor

The minor consists of 18 units; three courses are taken from the core curriculum, which give students a basic framework for South Asian studies. These courses fully concentrate on South Asia and/or the diaspora and provide students with a broad introduction to the history, culture, and politics of South Asia (one course each need to be taken from the clusters of "Culture of South Asia," "History and Politics of South Asia," and "South Asian Diaspora").

The remaining units can be taken from the core curriculum or from a long list of electives. Elective courses provide the opportunity for more in-depth or topical and comparative study as well as the study of South Asia in relation to other regions of the world.

The minor is designed to give flexibility to students who can select from courses across disciplines, including Art, Asian American Studies, Economics, English,

Ethnic Studies, History, Holistic Health, Humanities, International Business, International Relations, Philosophy, Political Science, and Women and Gender Studies.

For more information, contact the program directors: Falu Bakrania (bakrania@sfsu.edu) or Kasturi Ray (kasturi@sfsu.edu).

### Core

Select at least three courses (9–17 units) from the core according to the requirements indicated below. The core consists of three core areas identified as *Culture of South Asia*, *History and Politics of South Asia*, and *South Asian Diaspora*.

## South Asian Studies Minor — Minimum 18 units

### Core (9–17 units)

#### Core Area 1: Culture of South Asia (3–6 units)

ART 502	Asian Art: Special Areas (prerequisite of ART 205)	3
HUM 535	Classical South Asian Cultural Forms	3
HUM 536	Modern South Asian Cultural Forms	3

#### Core Area 2: History and Politics of South Asia (3–8 units)

HIST 584	India and the British Empire	3
I R 326	South and Southeast Asia Foreign Relations	4
PLSI/I R 412	South Asian Politics	4
PLSI 415	Politics of India	4

#### Core Area 3: South Asian Diaspora (3 units)

AA S 540	South Asians in the United States	3
RRS 657/AA S 541	South Asian Diaspora	3

### Electives (1–9 units)

Select any courses not completed in fulfillment of the core above

AA S 210	History of Asians in the United States	3
or AA S 510	Asian Americans in California	
ART 417	The Art and Architecture of Islam	3
ART/HUM 205	Asian Art History	3
HIST 585	India since Gandhi	3
HIST 606	History of Iran and Afghanistan 1500 - Present	3
HUM 366	India's Gandhi	3
HUM 375	Biography of a City (Delhi)	3
MUS 530	Musics of the Middle East and India	3
PHIL 509	The Buddhist Tradition	3
PLSI/I R 416	Ethnicity and Nationalism	4
SNSK 699	Independent Study	1-3