

An Introduction to India's Foreign Policy since Independence

B.A. SEMINAR: WS 2016/2017

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Course Description:

The purpose of this seminar is to give an introduction to the Foreign Policy of the emerging power India. A power that is by its sheer size the most important actor in South Asia, a dynamic and volatile region which contains yet another nuclear state (Pakistan) and where some of the world's most protracted conflicts (Kashmir, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka) are taking place. However, due to its growing capabilities, India is increasingly projecting its influence beyond the region (be it the wider Indian Ocean region or the global financial architecture).

The seminar chronologically follows the different Indian governments since the country's independence in 1947, starting with 'panchsheela' - the normative approach to foreign policy of the Jawaharlal Nehru government, its subsequent transformation under Lal Bahadur Shastri, Indira and Rajiv Gandhi, the reorientations under the UPA government of Manmohan Singh adjusting to globalization and the latest developments under Prime Minister Narendra Modi since 2014.

Besides its orientation on this timeframe structuring the course, the main topics included in the seminar are India's relations to Pakistan with regard to the Kashmir issue, the wars between India and Pakistan, the nuclear dimension, relations with 'smaller neighbors' (like India-Nepali, India-Bangladeshi and India-Sri Lankan relations). Finally, the attempts for multilateral cooperation and governance via SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), and its engagement with extra-regional great powers, like China's and the United States' relationship with India, will be considered, as will be India's role in global governance and the evolving global economy. Thereby engaging policy issues ranging from security and terrorism to borders and trade, as well as from strategic water and energy supply to the environment.

Calendar and Syllabus:

1. October 25th, 2016

#1 Administrative session

Core reading for next week:

> Walt, Stephen. 'International Relations: One World, many theories' in: *Foreign Policy*, No.110, 29-46.

Supplementary reading:

> Buzan, Barry & Lawson, George. *The global transformation: history, modernity and the making of international relations* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2015)

> Hudson, Valerie. *Foreign policy analysis: classic and contemporary theory*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

> Walker, Stephen G. (ed.) *Rethinking foreign policy analysis*. (London, Routledge, 2011)

2. November 15th, 2016

#2 Introductory session

Distribution of topics and presentation dates (outline of the course);
Short introduction into the field of International Relations and especially Foreign Policy Analysis;

Question for Group discussion:

"What are the major issues of Indian foreign policy during the last decades?"

Core reading for next week:

> Bajpai, Kanti. "Indian Strategic Culture" in: "South Asia in 2020: Future Strategic Balances and Alliances", edited by Michael R. Chambers (Zürich: Bibliogov, 2002), pp.245-305.

Supplementary:

> Ollapally, Deepa M. and Nau, Henry R. "Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Domestic Foreign Policy Debates In China, India, Iran, Japan, And Russia", (Oxford University Press) 2012.

> Singh, Jaswant. *Defending India*, Delhi: Macmillan 1999.

3. November 22nd, 2016

#3 India's Foreign Policy Worldviews and Ideational Traditions

India's Foreign Policy Worldviews and Ideational Traditions in terms of Indian Strategic Culture(s) or the 'software' of India's Foreign Policy Establishment.

Question for group discussion:

"How have history and ideology affected foreign policy and the international outlook of India after independence?"

Core reading for next week:

>Harsh V. Pant and Julie M. Super "India's 'non-alignment' conundrum: a twentieth-century policy in a changing world" in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

>Nanda, B. R: Nehru and Non-Alignment. - Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1998 In: Jawaharlal Nehru. (1998)

4. November 29th, 2016

#4 Nehru and Non-Alignment (strategic autonomy)

Non-alignment as a core principle of Indian Foreign Policy, which aimed at implementing two of the country's primary goals 'strategic autonomy' and comprehensive development.

Question for group discussion:

"How realist in terms of theory was Panchasheela as the cornerstone of Nehru's foreign policy?"

Core reading for next week:

> Rajesh Basrur "India–Pakistan Relations. Between War and Peace" in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

> India-Pakistan chapter in "Tharoor, Shashi: Pax Indica : India and the world of the 21st century / New Delhi [u.a.]: Allen Lane, 2012"

5. December 6th, 2016

#5 India-Pakistan Relations

The most important relationship for India in its immediate neighborhood with implications for the regional stability of South Asia and .the Nation-building efforts of both countries.

Question for group discussion:

"How does India's 'hegemonic presence in the geographical centre of South Asia affect inter-state relations with Pakistan but also with other South Asian nations?"

Core reading for next week:

> Sumit Ganguly: 'Will Kashmir Stop India's Rise?' , in: Foreign Affairs, Vol. 85, No. 4 (Jul. - Aug., 2006), pp. 45-56

Supplementary:

> Mitra, Subrata K. 'War and Peace in South Asia: a revisionist view of India-Pakistan relations', Contemporary South Asia, 10 (3), 2001, 361-379

6. December 13th, 2016

#6 The Kashmir Conflict

The most protracted conflict in South Asia, at the heart of India-Pakistan rivalry, with more than symbolic significance for India's understanding as a diverse but peaceful great power.

Question for group discussion:

"Why is Kashmir considered pivotal in India's and Pakistan's respective nation-building process?"

Core reading for next week:

> Vipin Narang, "India's Nuclear Weapons Policy", in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

> Perkovich, George, "India's nuclear bomb: the impact on global Proliferation", Berkeley,: Univ. of California Press, 2000.

7. December 20th , 2016

#7 Reading Week:

International Relations Theory:

> Hopf, Ted. 'The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory' in: International Security, Vol. 23, No. 1 (Summer, 1998), pp. 171-200

> Krishna, Sankaran. 'A Postcolonial View on Critical International Relations Theory' in: Alternatives: Global, Local, Political, Vol. 18, No. 3 (Summer 1993), pp. 385-417

>Waltz, Kenneth. 'Structural Realism after the Cold War' in: International Security, Vol. 25, No. 1 (Summer, 2000), pp. 5-41

8. January 10th, 2017

#8 India's Nuclearization - Pokhran II

With the nuclear explosions in May 1998 India ended its policy of nuclear ambiguity in terms of weaponization, thereby joining the club of countries with a nuclear arsenal.

Question for group discussion:

"What are the implications of nuclearization for the power balance in the region?"

Core reading for next week:

> Vidya Nadkarni: "India and Russia. A Special Relationship?" in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) *India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect*. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

> Nivedita Das, Kundu, ed., "India-Russia strategic partnership: challenges and prospects", Academic Foundation, New Delhi, 2010.

9. January 17th, 2017

#9 India-Russia - A Friendship

For India Russia and till 1991 the Soviet Union has been one of the country's pivotal strategic Partners especially in terms of defence procurement.

Question for group discussion:

"What are the strategic ramifications of Indo-Russian defence collaboration ?"

Core reading for next week:

> David M. Malone, "The Evolution of Indian Multilateralism. From High Ground to High Table" in: Malone, David. *Does the Elephant Dance?: Contemporary Indian Foreign Policy*. Oxford Univ. Press; 2011

Supplementary:

> Bruce Jones, Pratap Bhanu Mehta, and Waheguru Pal Singh Sidhu, Eds: "Shaping the emerging world order. India and multilateralism", Brookings Institution Press, Washington, 2013.

10. January 24th, 2017

#10 Indian Multilateralism and the example of SAARC

India's engagement in multilateral fora is deep and varied ranging from the United Nations to the global financial architecture to regional initiatives like SAARC and BIMSTEC to name but a few.

Question for group discussion:

"How successful has SAARC been in mending the cultural and political fault lines between its members?"

Core reading for next week:

> Manjeet S. Pardesi: "India's China Policy" in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

> China Chapter in: Mohan, C. Raja, Crossing the Rubicon: The Shaping of India's New Foreign Policy, New Delhi: Penguin Viking 2003.

11. January 31st, 2017

#11 India-China Relations

China as India's biggest neighbor and main competitor in the evolving new world order takes a prominent place in any Analysis of India's foreign policy..

Question for group discussion:

"What are the implications of the strategic triangle between India, Pakistan and China for the regional state system?"

Core reading for next week:

> Devin T. Hagerty: "The Indo-US Entente. Committed Relationship or 'Friends with Benefits'?" in: Ganguly, Sumit (ed.) India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect. (New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016)

Supplementary:

> US Chapter in: Cohen, Stephen, India: Emerging Power, Delhi: Oxford University Press 2001

12. February 2nd, 2017

#12 India-US relations

India's relationship with the (nowadays would-be) global hegemon has been ambivalent. After the end of the Cold war the two biggest democracies have improved their relations, however, despite its tilt towards the US India remains keen on not curtailing its strategic autonomy too much.

Question for group discussion:

"What are major influences that can have a decisive impact on Indo-US cooperation?"

Common evaluation of the course and Q&A regarding the term paper.

Prior Requirements:

Language of instruction will be English and students are expected to have prior knowledge of International Relations.

Credit Points:

(In German. For other degrees please clarify requirements with your lecturer and Fachstudienberater.)

B.A. Südasiastudien

- **6 Leistungspunkte;**

Teilnahme (**2LP**), Referat (**2LP**), Hausarbeit (**2LP**)

(7 to 8 pages or ca. 3500 words – WITHOUT Contents and Bibliography)

Essays (Hausarbeiten) can be built on your presentation.

Please do check with your lecturer regarding the research question, as well as the overall structure of your essay.

Essays (Hausarbeiten) can be written either in English or in German.

Each participant has to give a presentation of **maximum 20 minutes**. This presentation should go beyond the core readings for each session and attempt to answer a focused question.

A **mandatory preparatory meeting** with the lecturer takes place in the week before the presentation.

Please bring your **handout** - with your question, structure & bibliography - to this preparatory meeting. Please print this handout for all participants.

Deadline for the Essay:

Please hand in your essay (Hausarbeit) latest till **31st of March 2017**

via email to: Beitelmaier-Berini@uni-heidelberg.de

Good luck!