Globalization, Governance and the State in India

Semester 2 - 2016-2017
Instructor: Rahul Mukherji
Time: 11:00-13:00
Venue: SAI Room Z10
Department of Political Science, South Asia Institute

Aims

This class will explore the impact of globalization on the Indian state and its governance. Equally important, it will interrogate the domestic sources of governance that impact governance in India.

This course wishes to focus attention on a couple of issues:

1. How do global forces such as the powerful states and international organizations make an impact on the Indian state?
2. How can we understand the state as a conceptual variable in politics?
3. What is the nature of the Indian state?
4. What is governance?
5. Does the Indian state have a significant role in governance?
6. Is the Indian state impacted by the forces of globalization?

Moodle Password: Global17

Calendar & Syllabus

1. April 26, 2017
   What is the class about?

2. May 3, 2017

   Globalization 1: Imperialism and Dependency Theory

   Lenin’s Theory of Imperialism argued forcefully about the relationship between capitalism and imperialism. Did later dependency scholars take this agenda forward?

   Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*.
See: https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/imp-hsc/


3. May 10, 2017

*Hegemony and Embedded Liberalism*

Do hegemons create world orders? Or do ideas and interests within the domestic realm matter?


*Supplementary*


4. May 17, 2017

*Norm Diffusion*

What is the relationship between global norms and national level norms?


*Supplementary*


5. May 24 2017

*The State*

Can the state be considered a conceptual variable?


*Supplementary*


6. May 31 2017

*Developmental State*

Did the developmental state evolve organically from the literature on the state? Is India a developmental state?


*Supplementary:*


7. June 7 2017

*Clientelism*

What happens when political patrons support only their clients rather than the citizenry at large?


Supplementary


8. June 14 2017
State capacity in India:
What is state capacity? How did India manage economic reforms?


Supplementary


9. June 21 2017
When the does the state succeed? – Different Party Strategies


Supplementary


10. June 28 2017
Do ideas within the state matter?

*Supplementary*

Rahul Mukherji, Globalization and Deregulation: Ideas, Interests and Institutional Change in India. (Oxford University Press, 2014).


11. July 5 2017
State Capacity: India’s Telecom Revolution
India’s telecom revolution is a clear case of state capacity within the context of democracy. How did this occur?


*Supplementary*

12. July 12 2017
Guest lecture by Dr. Himanshu Jha
*Do ideas matter? The Right to Information*


13. July 19 2017:
State Incapacity: The Power Sector in India
The power sector in India is the saga of an infrastructure sector that could not benefit much from economic reforms.

*Supplementary*

14. July 26 2017
*Exam*: The question paper will be distributed on July 12 2017 after class. The exam on July 19 will be a closed book exam. MA students will answer three questions and BA students will answer 2 questions.

**Prior Requirements**

This class does not require any prior knowledge of South Asia. What is required is a commitment to South Asia and to social theory. The instructor and the lecturers are happy to work with students. Students are required to go through the readings mentioned just below the titles. This is essential for taking the exam. The supplementary materials are further readings for students who want to learn more about a particular topic.

**Organization**

The Vorlesung will be a 90-minute lecture with discussions wherever possible. We encourage students to ask questions, even though lecturing will be the main component of the class. Questions and comments make for a lively class both for the lecturer and the pupils. Otherwise, the class becomes boring. I will use slides, which will come with lecture notes.

The lecture slides and essential readings will be uploaded on Moodle. The supplementary material will be available in the library reserves. Following the lecture and essential readings will earn students a good grade. If students engage the supplementary material as well, that will be impressive. There is no limit to how much you can learn from this class. I have pointed to additional resources in the following section titled: *Scholarly Resources*.

Students who desire a “Schein” must register on Moodle by the second week after the lecture begins. The *password* for registering for this class is: Global17.

**Assessment**
Attendance in the Vorlesung is voluntary for those who do not wish to get a ‘Schein’ at the semester’s end. For others, attendance is compulsory. The exam paper will be given out on July 12. The week between July 12 – July 19 can be used for preparation. There will be a closed book exam on July 26.

Students who do not attend the exam will receive no grade, unless they have a good excuse. Such students are required to submit a paper within a week. MA students will have to write a 4500 to 5000 - word paper. BA students are should turn in a 3000 to 3500 - word paper. The right to turn in such a paper is not automatic. I will need to be convinced that circumstances beyond the student’s control led to the student’s absence at the time of the exam.

**Scholarly Resources**

These resources are not required for taking the exam. However, if you are deeply interested in politics, political economy and South Asia, these journals will allow you to go deeper.

*Journals:* The journals given below are scholarly in nature. They often carry papers on the political economy of South Asia. You can go to their web sites, if you are keen to learn more about this class.

**Economic and Political Weekly:** [http://www.epw.in/](http://www.epw.in/)

**Journal of Development Studies**

**World Development**

**Pacific Affairs**

**Asian Survey**

**Contemporary South Asia**

**India Review**

**Seminar:** [http://www.india-seminar.com/](http://www.india-seminar.com/)

**Himal:** [http://himalmag.com/](http://himalmag.com/)

**Contemporary South Asia**

**Journal of South Asian Development**

**Journal of Asian Studies**
World Politics

Comparative Politics

American Political Science Review

Leading newspapers: Economic Times (India), The Hindu (India), Indian Express (India).