

# RELIGION AND IDENTITY IN SOUTH ASIA

REL 321

## SPRING 2017 READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

The readings listed below each day should be completed before that day's seminar. Assignments listed as Pandey and Nesbitt can be found in Gyanendra Pandey, *Routine Violence* and Eleanor Nesbitt *A Very Short Introduction to Sikhism*, respectively. Other readings marked with \*\* will be available on the course's Blackboard page.

### INTRODUCING SOUTH ASIA

Jan 17 - What is Identity?

\*\*Appiah, *Ethics Of Identity*, pp. 62 - 71

Jan 24 - What is Hinduism?

\*\* King, "Colonialism, Hinduism, and the Discourse of Religion"

\*\* Jha, "The Myth of the Holy Cow"

SP 1

Jan 31 -What is Islam?

\*\* Readings TBD

SP2

Feb 7 - What is Sikhism?

Nesbitt chps 1-4

SP3

### ROUTINE VIOLENCE

Feb 14 - Violence, Identity, and History

Pandey chps 1-2

**Blog 1 due**

SP 4

Feb 21 - Identity Politics and Lord Ram

Pandey chp. 4 and chp 4 Appendix

SP 5

Feb 28 - Marked and Unmarked Indians

Pandey chps 5-6

**Proposal due**

SP 6

### THE POWER OF LABELS

Mar 7 - The Indian Census and Labels

Nesbitt chp 5

\*\*Jones, "Religious Identity & Indian Census"

SP 7

Mar 14 - Spring Break

Mar 21 - Contesting Labels

\*\*Lelyveld, "Colonial Knowledge and the Fate of Hindustani"

\*\*Shirdi Sai Baba TBD

SP 8

**Blog 2 due**

Mar 28 - Caste and Social Structure

Pandey chp 7

Nesbitt chp 7

SP 9

**Outline due**

Apr 4 - Challenging Dominant Labels

\*\*Ramey, "Contesting Categories"

\*\*Ramey, "Forging Identities"

### EXAMINING SIKHISM

Apr 11 - 1984 and Sikh Identity

\*\*Chopra, "Commemorating Hurt"

SP 10

Apr 18 - Peer Review / Diasporic Sikhs

Nesbitt chp 6

\*\*Leonard, "Historical Constructions of Ethnicity"

**Draft to reviewer by 5 pm 17 April**

**Blog 3 due**

Apr 25 - Conclusions and Review

**FINAL PAPERS Due - May 2 at noon**