

**Professor Chester  
Hellems 225  
Office Hours: MW 2-2:50 and by appointment  
chester@colorado.edu**

**IAFS 4500: International Affairs in Post-Cold War South Asia**

<<https://learn.colorado.edu/d2l/home/68429>>

This course examines a range of post-Cold War challenges in the context of South Asia. We will discuss issues relating to women and gender, youth and education, the Taliban, Afghanistan, communalism, the environment, and nuclear proliferation. This syllabus is subject to change as current events dictate.

This is a capstone course, and students are expected to read thoroughly and thoughtfully. The weekly reading load will often top 100 pages. Course requirements include active seminar participation, a short policy paper, a book review, a group discussion presentation, a research presentation, and a final policy paper. Please note that only paper copies, not electronic submissions, will be accepted for written assignments.

**REQUIRED READING:**

*Available at bookstore:*

Ahmed Rashid, *Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil, and Fundamentalism in Central Asia*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New Haven: Yale UP, 2010)

Arundhati Roy, *The Cost of Living* (New York: Modern Library, 1999)

Malala Yousafzai, *I Am Malala* (New York: Little, Brown and Co, 2013)

*Available on D2L:*

Stephen Biddle, "Ending the War in Afghanistan," *Foreign Affairs* 92:5 (Sep/Oct 2013) 49-58

Sumit Ganguly, "The Crisis of Indian Secularism," *Journal of Democracy* 14.4 (2003) 11-25

Human Rights Watch, "'We Have No Orders to Save You': State Participation and Complicity in Communal Violence in Gujarat" 14:3 (Apr 2002)

Marina Ottaway and Anatol Lieven, "Rebuilding Afghanistan," in Sumit Ganguly, *South Asia* (New York: New York UP, 2006) 104-112

Barnett Rubin, "A Blueprint for Afghanistan," in Ganguly, *South Asia* 113-124

Scott Sagan, ed. *Inside Nuclear South Asia* (Stanford: Stanford UP, 2009) 13-19, 137-170, 219-254

Matt Waldman, *Strategic Empathy* (Washington: New America Foundation, 2014)

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION**

In order to succeed in this course, you must do the required reading before our Monday meeting and come to class prepared to join actively in discussion. You'll also need to stay up-to-date on current events in South Asia and bring in articles that relate to the assigned reading.

**POLICY PAPER—SEP 15**

In 5-7 pages, offer a policy-oriented analysis (that is, a report making policy recommendations) based on your research on a current issue in South Asian affairs.

**BOOK REVIEW—OCT 6**

Write a scholarly review of a book of your choosing.

**DISCUSSION PRESENTATION—WEEKS 3-10**

Students will lead class discussions in small groups. Email discussion questions to the class list by Tuesday noon the week of your presentation.

**RESEARCH BRIEFING—NOV 5 THROUGH DEC 10**

Students will brief the class during weeks eleven through sixteen on their developing research papers.

**FINAL POLICY PAPER (15-20 pages)—DUE DEC 12**

Design your own paper topic, in consultation with me, on a subject you did not explore in your first policy paper.

**GRADING**

Student grades will be determined on the basis of class participation (10%); book review (15%); shorter policy paper (15%); discussion presentation (20%); research briefing (10%); and final policy paper (30%). Late papers will be penalized a third of a grade for each day they are late; for example, an A paper that is submitted two days late will receive a B+. If you need an extension, you must discuss it with me in advance, except in cases of documented medical or family emergency. I grade as follows: 98-100=A+, 94-97=A, 90-93=A-, 87-89=B+, 84-86=B, 80-83=B-, 77-79=C+, 74-76=C, 70-73=C-, 67-69=D+, 64-66=D, 60-63=D-, 59 and below=F.

**OFFICE HOURS AND EMAIL**

Coming to my office hours (listed above) for a face-to-face discussion is the best way to get immediate feedback. Email should be reserved for questions I can answer in a sentence or two. I aim to reply to emails within 72 hours (excluding weekends).

**RELIGIOUS OBLIGATIONS AND CLASS CONFLICTS**

If you have a conflict with exams, assignments, or class meetings because of religious obligations, please let me know at least two weeks in advance. We will work together to arrange appropriate accommodations.

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services as soon as possible so that your needs can be addressed. You can reach Disability Services at (303) 492-8671, at Willard 322, or through their website <[www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices)>; they determine accommodations based on documented disabilities.

**PLAGIARISM AND THE HONOR CODE**

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. As a violation of the CU Honor Code and the university's policy on Academic Integrity, it is punishable by dismissal from the university. We will discuss proper citation in class, but you are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the meanings of plagiarism; "Sources: Their Use and Acknowledgement," published by Dartmouth College, is an excellent resource <[www.dartmouth.edu/~sources](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~sources)>.

A key element of the university Honor Code is that CU students will not plagiarize (that is, use the words and thoughts of others as their own). As part of the effort to control plagiarism and to ensure that submitted works from students are fully their own, the

university has subscribed to TurnItIn.com. As the Honor Code website notes, “This service allows faculty to submit sentences, paragraphs, or entire term/research papers or other scholarly works to the TurnItIn.com website for review. After the service scans more than 1.5 billion pages on the Internet, the faculty member will receive a report including the percentage of the material that has been identified as drawn from other sources, the degree of similarity in the matching material, and live hyperlinks to the original source material so that each faculty member can determine for themselves whether plagiarism has indeed occurred.” The electronic files submitted will then become part of the TurnItIn “closed database.” According to the Honor Code website, “This procedure not only ensures that multiple submissions of the same material can be detected, regardless of the passage of time or the location of the submission, but protects the integrity of each student's scholarly efforts. No additional access to, use, or publication of the material in this paper bank is made by TurnItIn.com.”

It is my intention to submit all student papers to TurnItIn.com, to give a grade of F in the course to any student in violation of the CU Honor Code, and to refer incidents of plagiarism to the Honor Code Council. Note that you cannot submit the same paper for two different classes without the express permission of both instructors. If you have any questions about this procedure or about any matter regarding proper citation and the Honor Code, ask me.

#### **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

In this class, we will all treat each other with respect. Civil discussion of differing viewpoints is an essential part of the study of international affairs. Appropriate classroom behavior includes arriving on time and remaining for the entire class; let me know before class if you will need to leave early. Please do not instant/text message, play games, sleep, read the newspaper, have private conversations, etc. during class. **Turn cell phones off.**

#### **DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>), the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment, and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

#### **COURSE OUTLINE**

##### **WEEK ONE: Introduction and Historical Context**

Readings: reliable news sources for current events in South Asia (see <http://www.colorado.edu/history/chester/SAAsiaNews.htm>)

- Aug 25: course introduction
- Aug 27: introduction to South Asia
- Aug 29: Malala Yousafzai

WEEK TWO: Religion in South Asia

Yousafzai 319-321, 1-89

- Sep 1: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
- Sep 3: South Asian religions, reading discussion
- Sep 5: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK THREE: Women and Gender

Yousafzai 90-204

- Sep 8: Pashtun culture, reading discussion
- Sep 10: student-led reading discussion
- Sep 12: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK FOUR: Education

*Policy paper due at beginning of class on Monday*

Yousafzai 205-313, 323-327

- Sep 15: the value of book reviews, reading discussion
- Sep 17: student-led reading discussion
- Sep 19: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK FIVE: Taliban I

Rashid 1-104

- Sep 22: variations on the veil, reading discussion
- Sep 24: student-led reading discussion
- Sep 26: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK SIX: Taliban II

Rashid 105-206

- Sept 29: Who's who in Afghanistan, reading discussion
- Oct 1: student-led reading discussion
- Oct 3: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK SEVEN: The Future of Afghanistan

Rashid 207-246, Ottaway and Lieven, Rubin, Biddle, Waldman

*Book review due at beginning of class on Monday*

- Oct 6: evaluating policy recommendations, reading discussion
- Oct 8: student-led reading discussion
- Oct 10: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK EIGHT: Communalism and Fundamentalism

HRW, "We Have No Orders to Save You"

Ganguly, "Crisis of Indian Secularism"

- Oct 13: Gujarat massacres, reading discussion
- Oct 15: student-led reading discussion
- Oct 17: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK NINE: Natural Resources and Environmental Issues

Roy 7-126

- Oct 20: *A Narmada Diary* screening, reading discussion
- Oct 22: student-led reading discussion
- Oct 24: discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK TEN: Nuclear Weapons and Security

Sagan excerpts

- Oct 27: nuclear proliferation, reading discussion
- Oct 29: student-led reading discussion
- Oct 31: the art of the briefing; discussion of reading and related current events

WEEK ELEVEN: Research Briefings

*Self-selected research reading; prepare your research briefing.*

- Nov 3: library visit
- Nov 5: research briefings
- Nov 7: research briefings

WEEK TWELVE: Research Briefings

*Self-selected research reading; prepare your research briefing.*

- Nov 10: research briefings
- Nov 12: research briefings
- Nov 14: discussion of current events related to your research

WEEK THIRTEEN: Research Briefings

*Self-selected research reading; prepare your research briefing.*

- Nov 17: research briefings
- Nov 19: research briefings
- Nov 21: discussion of current events related to your research

WEEK FOURTEEN: FALL BREAK

WEEK FIFTEEN: Research Briefings

*Self-selected research reading; prepare your research briefing.*

- Dec 1: writing workshop
- Dec 3: research briefings
- Dec 5: discussion of current events related to your research

WEEK SIXTEEN: Conclusions

*Final paper due at the beginning of class on Friday.*

- Dec 8: research briefings
- Dec 10: research briefings
- Dec 12: final paper due, conclusions