

Hampton University  
Department of Political Science and History

Dirk Richard Morton, Ph.D.

History 390 – Seminar in Comparative History

Course Syllabus  
Spring 2014

*A Comparative Study of Asian Nationalist Movements*

**Office:** MLK 202  
**Hours:** MWF 8-9am, 10-11am, 12-1pm.  
**Email:** dirk.morton@hamptonu.edu  
**Phone:** 757-727-5484  
**Class Meets:** MWF 2-2:50pm in MLK 115  
**Credits:** 3 Hours

**Texts:** Lawrence James, *Raj: The Making and Unmaking of British India* (St. Martin's Griffin, 1997).

Additional readings specific to students' research topics

**Course Structure and Theme:** This course introduces the student to the comparative approach to history by focusing on the topic of Asian Nationalism. More specifically, students will undertake their own topic-oriented research, build an appropriate framework of analysis comparing the history of their chosen Asian nationalist movement with that of India (lectures first half of semester), and formally present their work to the class (second half of the semester). As such, the course begins the semester in traditional lecture format, and then changes to seminar format after mid-semester. During the first half of the course, the instructor will lecture on Indian Nationalism while students research and develop their own framework of comparison between Indian Nationalism and another nationalist movement in Asia of their choice from the list below. The second half of the course will consist of formal student presentations of their comparative analysis of Indian Nationalism with that of their specific topic.

**I. Instructor's Expectations and Rules**

Due to the nature and design of this course, student attendance of all lectures is of vital importance! I expect seminar members to actively take notes during lecture, to approach this course in a diligent, earnest, and timely fashion, and to do their own work and their

own thinking – cut-and-paste plagiarism will not be tolerated! Therefore, the following rules apply:

1. Punctual class attendance is expected and required. **More than three (3) unexcused absences will automatically result in a failing grade for the course!**
2. All work must be submitted in hard copy. I do not accept any material electronically.
3. **Late work will not be accepted.**
4. Individual presentation dates are sacrosanct! If you do not present your research on the scheduled day (or as the instructor arranges), you will not have a second chance to do so! This missed opportunity will result in a presentation grade of “0”.

## **II. Course Content (3 credits)**

Seminar in Comparative History is typically focused on Asian Nationalism. The instructor will lecture on the changing identity of the Indian Nationalist Movement, then students will research another Asian nationalist movement and compare/contrast with the Indian Nationalist Movement. Students will present their research and compare with the Indian Nationalist Movement.

## **III. Course/Learning Objectives**

- 1. Knowledge:** The student will identify basic historical facts, concepts, and themes.
- 2. Comprehension:** The student will define, explain, and interpret historical data and facts in context with the events and ideas discussed.
- 3. Application:** The student will use historical material in new and concrete situations. The student will apply generalizations and principles to the larger historical context.
- 4. Analysis:** The student will deduce from basic assumptions, make distinctions, show relationships, and appraise their significance.
- 5. Writing/Research:** The student will enhance writing and research skills in presenting concisely argued, lucid, written and /or oral assignments.
- 6. Evaluation:** The student will compare and contrast and draw conclusions about historical events and ideas. The student will evaluate historical data and assess the significance of historical data to modern events.

The course learning objectives follow the overall goals of the School of Liberal Arts and Hampton University to prepare students for a successful career by increasing students' competency in knowledge, writing, and analytical skills and teach them to become well informed and responsible citizens.

## **IV. Measurement**

Student learning outcomes will be measured by oral presentations, a bibliographic essay on sources used, and classroom participation/demonstrated effort. The instructor will supply additional information of the measurements employed. The overall goal is to assure that students have achieved competency in the skills listed above for this course and hence meet the overall educational standards of Hampton University.

## **V. Grading**

Grading scale:

A+: 100-98; A: 97-94; A-: 93-90  
 B+: 89-88; B: 87-84; B-: 83-80  
 C+: 79-78; C: 77-74; C-: 73-70  
 D+: 69-68; D: 67-64; D-: 63-60  
 F: Below 60

**Grades will be assessed as follows:**

Summary 1 (due <b>February 3</b> )	15%
Summary 2 (due <b>February 24</b> )	15%
Summary 3 (due <b>March 24</b> )	15%
Summary 4 (due <b>April 7</b> )	15%
Research Presentation (dates to be assigned)	40%

\*Summaries are to be 4-5 pages in length

### **Research Topics:**

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Vietnamese Nationalism | 10. Sikh Nationalism      |
| 2. Chinese Nationalism    | 11. Uyghur Nationalism    |
| 3. Indonesian Nationalism | 12. Tibetan Nationalism   |
| 4. Philippine Nationalism | 13. Malaysian Nationalism |
| 5. Korean Nationalism     | 14. Burmese Nationalism   |
| 6. Pakistani Nationalism  |                           |
| 7. Tamil Nationalism      |                           |
| 8. Taiwanese Nationalism  |                           |
| 9. Japanese Nationalism   |                           |

## **PART 1**

### **Lectures**

1. Introduction of the Comparative Approach to History
2. Overview of British Imperialism in India.
3. Sowing Seeds of Discontent: Making “Little Englishmen.”
4. Proto-Nationalism and the Birth of the Indian National Congress.
5. The First World War: Promises Made and Broken.
6. Revolutionaries, the Rowlatt Acts, Jallianwala Bagh, and the *Swaraj* Movement.

7. Mohandas Gandhi and Satyagraha: Congresses' Non-violent Civil Disobedience Movement, 1919-1922.
8. The Simon Commission and the Nehru Report
9. Congress's *Declaration of Independence*, January 26, 1930.
10. First Round Table Conference and the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.
11. Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the *Muslim League*.
12. The Second World War and the *Quit India Movement*.
13. "Freedom At Midnight" and the Partition of India: The Birth of Independent India and Pakistan.
14. Contemporary Indian Nationalism and the *Hindutva* Movement.

The Film ***Gandhi*** will be shown - TBA.

## PART 2

### Student Presentations

Instructor Reserves the Right to Modify the Course Syllabus as Necessary.