

Education, Society & Science in India

TIFR Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education
Fall 2015 – Mon 15.00-17.00 & Wed 11.00-13.30

This graduate seminar is designed to expose students to the history and sociology of modern education in colonial and postcolonial India, with a focus on ideas and institutions, and key concepts and thinkers in this field.

The seminar will meet twice a week for four months, and is spread over three units or themes of five weeks each on 1. “Modernity & Colonialism”, 2. “Nation & State” and 3. “Education, Policy & Society”.

Participants shall sign up to take turns writing a 1,000 word reflection/discussion paper on the week's readings for prior circulation amongst participants, as well as to lead discussion in that week's seminar sessions.

The main requirement is a long essay or research paper of 7,000-7,500 words, comprising a literature review, social, demographic or other data with a theoretical argument on education and society in India.

Deadlines for paper preparation and completion are noted in the schedule and syllabus below. All seminar participants are expected to complete close reading of assigned texts in advance and be prepared to participate in every session.

AUGUST 2015

- 3-5** Course Introduction
10-12 1.1. Modernity & Rationality
17-19 1.2. Colonial Power
24-26 1.3. Colonial Science
31 *Guest Session TBA*

OCTOBER 2015

- 5-7** 2.4. Indigenous Science
12-14 2.5. Educational Institutions
19-21 *No Class: Reading Week*
26 *Paper Rough Draft Due*
26-28 3.1. Ideology & Science

SEPTEMBER 2015

- 2** 1.4. Colonial Education
7 *Bibliography/Outline Due*
7-9 1.5. Indian Science
14-16 2.1. Nationalism
16 *Guest Session: N. Varadarajan*
21-23 2.2. Nation & Education
28-30 2.3. Education & Liberation

NOVEMBER 2015

- 2-4** 3.2. Democracy & Merit
9-11 3.3. Access & Inclusion
16-18 3.4. Schools & Society
18 *Paper Final Draft Due*
23-26 3.5. Hindu Science
30 Course Conclusion
30 *Final Paper Submission*

1. Colonialism & Modernity

WEEK 1 - Introduction

Monday 3 August – *Course Introduction*

Wednesday 5 August

- Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi. 'Indian Science Today: An Indigenously Crafted Crisis.' In *India's World: The Politics of Creativity In a Globalized Society*, edited by Arjun Appadurai and Mack, Arien, 240–64. New Delhi: Rupa & Co., 2012.
- Visvanathan, Shiv. 'Democracy, Plurality and the Indian University.' In *Higher Education in India: In Search of Equality, Quality and Quantity*, edited by Jandhyala B. G. Tilak, 36–57. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2013.

1.1. WEEK 2 - Modernity & Rationality

Monday 10 August

- Kaviraj, Sudipta. '1. On State, Society and Discourse in India.' In *The Imaginary Institution of India*, 9–38. Bangalore: Permanent Black, 2010.
- Shukla, Sureshachandra. 'From Pre-Colonial to Post-Colonial-Educational Transitions in Southern Asia.' *Economic and Political Weekly* vol. 31, no. 22 (1 June 1996): 1344–49.

Wednesday 12 August

- Gramsci, Antonio. 'On Education.' In *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*, edited by Quintin Hoare and Geoffrey Nowell Smith, 24–43. New York: International Publishers, 1971.
- ———. 'The Intellectuals.' In *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*, edited by Quintin Hoare and Geoffrey Nowell Smith, 3–23. New York: International Publishers, 1971.

1.2. WEEK 3 - Colonial Power

Monday 17 August

- Acharya, Poromesh. 'Indigenous Education and Brahmanical Hegemony in Bengal.' In *The Transmission of Knowledge in South Asia: Essays on Education, Religion, History and Politics*, edited by Nigel Crook, 98–118. Oxford University Press, 1996.
- Kaviraj, Sudipta. '2. On the Construction of Colonial Power: Structure, Discourse, Hegemony.' In *The Imaginary Institution of India*, 39–84. Bangalore: Permanent Black, 2010.

Wednesday 19 August

- Cohn, Bernard S. '1. The Command of Language and the Language of Command.' In *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge*, 16–56. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1996.

1.3. WEEK 4 – Colonial Science

Monday 17 August

- Habib, S. Irfan, and Dhruv Raina. ‘Copernicus, Colonialism, and the Role of Science in 19th Century India.’ In *Social History of Science in Colonial India*, 229–51. Oxford University Press, 2007.

Wednesday 19 August

- Kumar, Deepak. ‘4. Science in Education.’ In *Science and the Raj: 1857-1905*, 113–50. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 1995.
- ———. ‘5. Research in Science.’ In *Science and the Raj: 1857-1905*, 151–79. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 1995.

1.4. WEEK 5 – Colonial Education

Monday 31 August – Guest Session TBA

- Kumar, Krishna. *Politics of Education in Colonial India*. 1st Edition. London: Routledge India, 2013.

Wednesday 2 September – No Class

- Nandy, Ashis. *Alternative Sciences: Creativity and Authenticity in Two Indian Scientists*. 2nd Edition. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 2001.

1.5. WEEK 6 – Indian Science

Monday 7 September – Paper Outline & Bibliography Due

- Dionne, Russell, and Roy MacLeod. ‘Science and Policy in British India: Perspectives on a Persisting Belief.’ In *Social History of Science in Colonial India*, edited by S. Irfan Habib and Dhruv Raina, 159–95. Oxford University Press, 2007.

Wednesday 9 September

- Prakash, Gyan. ‘Science Between the Lines.’ In *Subaltern Studies IX: Writings on South Asian History and Society*, edited by Shahid Amin and Dipesh Chakrabarty, Volume 9:59–82. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 1997.
- Arnold, David. ‘5. Imperial Science and the Indian Scientific Community.’ In *Science, Technology and Medicine in Colonial India*, 129–68. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

2. Nation & State

2.1. WEEK 7 - Nationalism

Monday 14 September

- Kaviraj, Sudipta. '3. On the Structure of Nationalist Discourse.' In *The Imaginary Institution of India*, 85–126. Bangalore: Permanent Black, 2010.

Wednesday 16 September – Guest Session: Dr N. Varadarajan

2.2. WEEK 8 – Nation & Education

Monday 21 September

- Acharya, Poromesh. 'Educational Ideals of Tagore and Gandhi - A Comparative Study.' *Economic and Political Weekly* vol. 32, no. 12 (22 March 1997): 601–5.
- Arnold, David. '6. Science, State and Nation.' In *Science, Technology and Medicine in Colonial India*, 169–210. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Wednesday 23 September

- Chatterjee, Partha. 'The Nation and Its Women.' In *The Nation & Its Fragments – Colonial & Postcolonial Histories*, 116–34. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press, 1993.
- Minault, Gail. *Secluded Scholars: Women's Education and Muslim Social Reform in Colonial India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 1998.

2.3. WEEK 9 – Education & Liberation

Monday 28 September

- Freire, Paulo. 'Chapters 1-2.' In *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, 30th Anniversary Edition., 43–86. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2000.

Wednesday 30 September

- Ilaiah, Kancha. *Post-Hindu India: A Discourse in Dalit-Bahujan, Socio-Spiritual and Scientific Revolution*. New Delhi: Sage India, 2009.
- Velaskar, Padma. 'Education for Liberation: Ambedkar's Thought and Dalit Women's Perspectives.' *Contemporary Education Dialogue* 9, no. 2 (1 July 2012): 245–71.

2.4. WEEK 10 – Indigenous Science

Monday 5 October

- Chatterjee, Partha. 'The National State.' In *The Nation & Its Fragments – Colonial & Postcolonial Histories*, 200–219. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press, 1993.
- Alvares, Claude. 'Science, Colonialism, and Violence: A Luddite View.' In *Science, Hegemony and Violence: A Requiem for Modernity*, edited by Ashis Nandy, 68–112. New Delhi: Oxford University Press India, 1989.

Wednesday 7 October

- Visvanathan, Shiv. *Organizing for Science: The Making of an Industrial Research Laboratory*. Oxford University Press, 1985.

2.5. WEEK 11 - Educational Institutions

Monday 12 October

- Alam, Arshad. *Inside a Madrasa: Knowledge, Power and Islamic Identity in India*. New Delhi: Routledge India, 2011.
- ———. 'Science in Madrasas.' *Economic and Political Weekly* vol. 40, no. 18 (30 April 2005): 1812–15.

Wednesday 14 October

- Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi, ed. *The Contested Terrain: Perspectives on Education in India*. New Delhi: Orient BlackSwan, 1998.

WEEK 12

Monday 19 October - No Class, Reading Week

Wednesday 21 October - No Class, Reading Week

Education, Policy & Society

3.1. WEEK 13 - Ideology & Science

Monday 26 October - Paper Rough Draft Due

- Lyotard, Jean-Francois. 'The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge.' In *The Postmodern Condition*, 3–67. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1984.

Wednesday 28 October

- Althusser, Louis. 'Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses (Notes Toward an Investigation).' In *Mapping Ideology*, edited by Slavoj Žižek, 100–140. London: Verso, 1994.

3.2. WEEK 14 - Democracy & Merit

Monday 2 November

- Dewey, John. *Democracy and Education*. New York: Free Press, 1997.
- Dreze, Jean. 'Equality and Universality.' In *Higher Education in India: In Search of Equality, Quality and Quantity*, edited by Jandhyala B. G. Tilak, 21–35. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2013.
- ———. 'Universities as Public Institutions.' In *Higher Education in India: In Search of Equality, Quality and Quantity*, edited by Jandhyala B. G. Tilak, 526–36. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2013.

Wednesday 5 November

- Madan, Amman. 'Sociologising Merit.' *Economic and Political Weekly* vol, 42, no. 29 (21 July 2007): 3044–50.
- Subramanian, Jayasree. 'Perceiving and Producing Merit Gender and Doing Science in India.' *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 14, no. 2 (1 June 2007): 259–84.

3.3. WEEK 15 – Access & Inclusion

Monday 9 November

- Deshpande, Satish, and Usha Zacharias, eds. *Beyond Inclusion: The Practice of Equal Access in Indian Higher Education*. New Delhi: Routledge India, 2013.

Wednesday 11 November

- Thapan, Meenakshi, and T. N. Madan, eds. *Education and Society: Themes, Perspectives, Practices*. First edition. New Delhi, India: Oxford University Press, 2015.

3.4. WEEK 16 – Schools & Society

Monday 16 November

- Bourdieu, Pierre. *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. Translated by Tony Bennett. London: Routledge Classics, 2010.
- Readings, Bill. *The University in Ruins*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1997.

Wednesday 18 November – Paper Final Draft Due

- Arnot, Madeleine. *Reproducing Gender: Critical Essays on Educational Theory and Feminist Politics*. Routledge, 2002.

3.5. WEEK 17 – Hindu Science

Monday 23 November

- Chatterjee, Partha. 'Histories and Nations.' In *The Nation & Its Fragments – Colonial & Postcolonial Histories*, 95–115. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press, 1993.
- ———. 'The Nation and Its Pasts.' In *The Nation & Its Fragments – Colonial & Postcolonial Histories*, 76–94. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press, 1993.

Thursday 26 November: Film Screening – *Hawaizaada* (Vibhu Puri, 2014)

- Vahia, Mayank. 'Cry My Beloved Science, Cry My Beloved Country' *DNA Daily News & Analysis*. 5 January 2015.

WEEK 18 - CONCLUSION

Monday 30 November – Final Paper Due