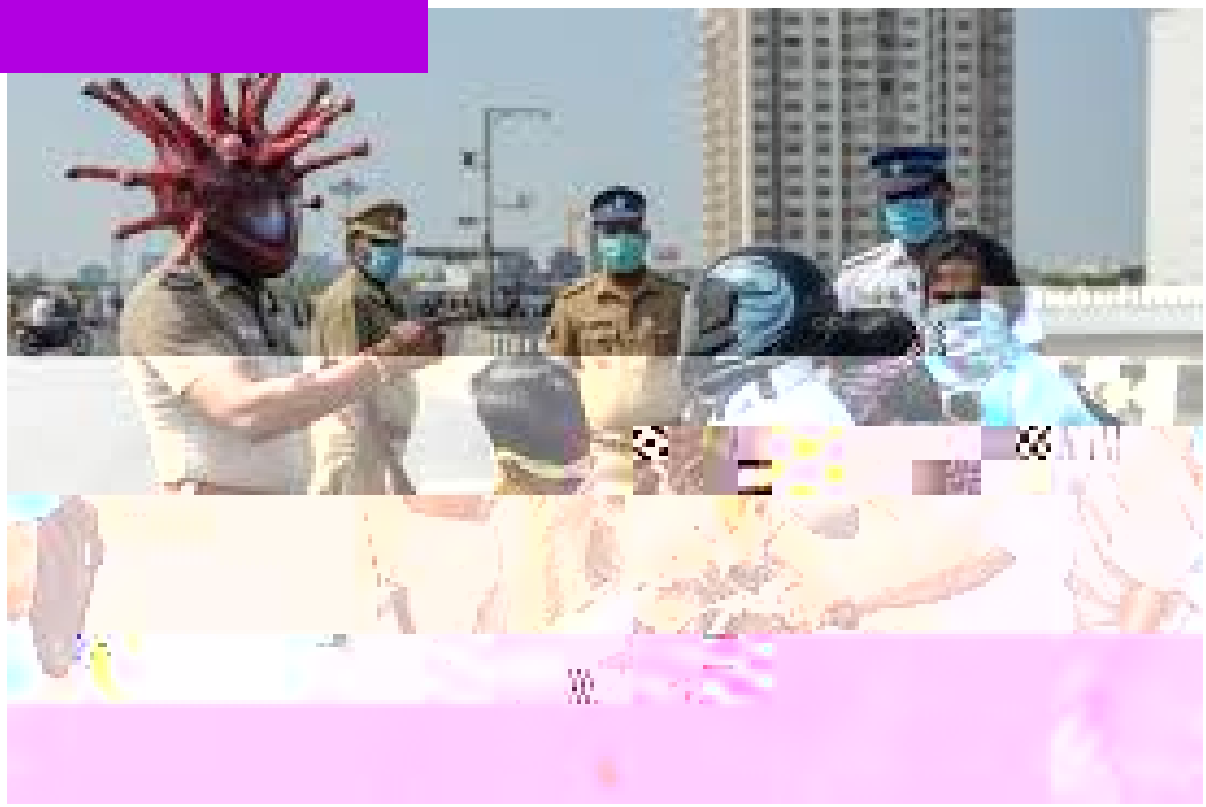


ARTS3212

Contemporary India Through Bollywood: Politics, Society and Culture

Term Three // 2020

School of Humanities and Languages // UNSW Arts and Social Sciences

Course Overview

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

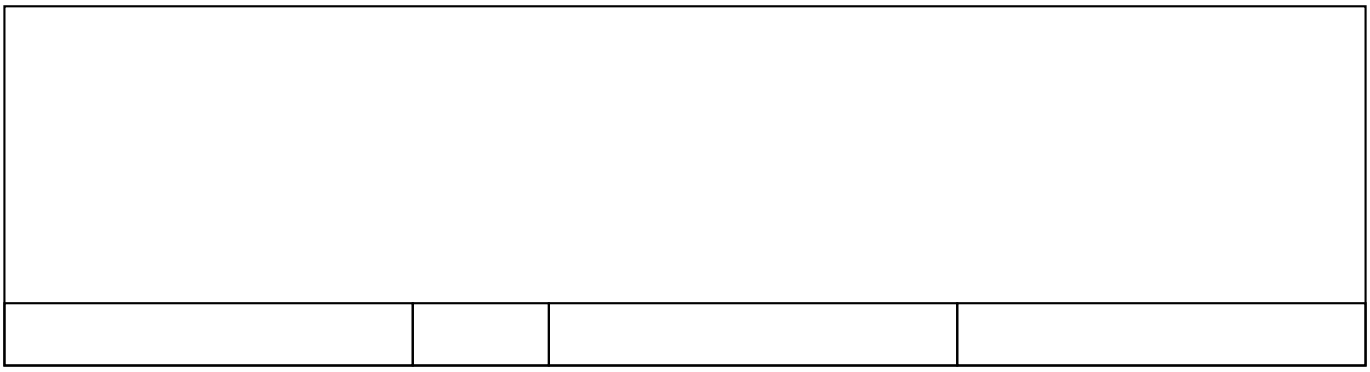
In the contemporary world order, India presents a paradox: a rising global economic powerhouse facing substantial developmental and environmental challenges. *Am l rc k nmp_pw G l bg_* provides students with pathways to understanding India today, with reference to its post-colonial history, society and current politics. The course uses popular Hindi cinema or Bollywood as an entry point to trace the legacies of colonialism, democracy and secularism in India, alongside analyses of caste, gender and region. The course considers the developmental economy, as well as issues of corruption, neoliberalism and the role of the Indian diaspora. By the end of the course, you will be able to offer sound advice to anyone who asks you: Where is India going? What are the opportunities and risks offered by engaging with contemporary India?

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and evaluate relevant scholarly literature
2. Explain key aspects of Indian society, culture and politics since 1947
3. Construct evidence-based arguments using independently located sources
4. Perform assigned tasks within a group setting and take part in group discussion
5. Identify the ways in which popular culture, such as film, reflects the political, social and cultural influences in which it is produced and consumed.

Teaching Strategies

The course is designed to introduce students to contemporary Indian politics, society, and culture in an active learning environment. The course takes substantive issues addressed in contemporary Bollywood film as a prompt to interrogate the course themes. Short clips will be shown and discussed in class as a way of prompting thinking about topics. Weekly lectures provide the background information to introduce students to critical themes that structure collaborative learning. Break-out groups focus on specific readings, connecting events affecting contemporary India by engaging with news events, cultural expressions and analysis in the blogosphere. We will make use of jigsaw groups to divide readings and discuss them in small groups. Students are encouraged to tailor their writing assessments to align with their particular interests, and to write an extended essay on a topic of their own design.



Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Essay abstract and annotated bibliography

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1200-1500 words

Details:

Students identify their major focus for the essay by week four, by writing an abstract outlining their intended argument, based on the literature consulted. The annotated bibliography will detail this literature, assessing five scholarly sources they have identified. 1200-1500 words. Feedback will be offered via individual comments, a rubric, and in-class discussion.

Submission notes:See instructions on Moodle.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Research Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3500

Details:

The research essay will extend on the first assignment, based on feedback and their independent research of the secondary literature. With a limit of 3,500 words, the essay offers the opportunity to explore a topic of the student's choosing in some detail. Feedback will be offered via individual comments and a rubric. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Readings are set each week on Moodle/ Leganto, as well online materials.

Recommended Resources

There will be additional resources on Moodle/ Leganto.

Course Evaluation and Development

Last year students provided extensive feedback on their favorite topics and readings. These have been factored into this year's course.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to: