COURSE DETAIL

SOUTH ASIAN SOCIETY THROUGH MUSIC
Country Taiwan
Host Institution National Taiwan University
Program(s) National Taiwan University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) South & SE Asian Studies Asian Studies
UCEAP Course Number 122
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title SOUTH ASIAN SOCIETY THROUGH MUSIC
UCEAP Transcript Title S ASIA SOC MUSIC
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

This course weaves together social themes and historical processes for introductory acquaintance with the people of South Asia through the lens of musical performance and its allied arts. While the focus is on the Indian Subcontinent, which largely falls into the nation-state of India, the course also thematically explores case studies from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. This course does not aim for coverage of all regions in South Asia, but rather introduces key concepts that can be applied to open up a window to understanding contemporary South Asian society and its diaspora.

Over the twentieth century, the most famous exports of South Asian music for global audiences have been the “classical” music and dance traditions of north and south India, Bollywood movie soundtracks, and ecstatic devotional singing such as qawwali and kirtan. This course engages students in appreciating these performances as sophisticated art forms; familiarizing them with a diverse range of folk and popular genres, but also delving into the historical and social processes that shape them into the way their exponents and audiences understand them today.

The course examines how contemporary performers reenact theorization from ancient treatises; how colonialism, nationalism, and migration reconfigured people’s engagements with musical performing arts, and how social groupings such as caste, class, religion, gender, and sexuality shape the way people make and listen to music across different localities in South Asia.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
GenEdu5023

Host Institution Course Title

SOUTH ASIAN MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AND SOCIETY
Host Institution Course Details https://nol.ntu.edu.tw/nol/coursesearch/print_table.php?course_id=H02%2050210&c...
Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2023-2024

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