

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 SOCIETY THROUGH MUSIC

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

[Print](#)