GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

History of South Asia (A005471)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	independent work
			lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Vekemans, Tine	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
Limberger, Michael	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (China Track))	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (UGent Track))	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity	5	A
Elective Set Culture and Society	5	A
Elective Set History	5	A
Elective Set Languages of Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

History, Southern Asia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh

Position of the course

This introductory course makes students understand the chronology, periodical and political history of South Asia. The course helps students acquire the skills to read, understand and use the most important works on the history of the region.

Contents

Survey of the history of South Asia from the Bronce Age up to the twentieth century.
The students write a written task, to become familiar with the use of specialized standard literature

Initial competences

no specific comptences required; sufficient passive knowledge of English and French to consult the relevant literature

Final competences

1 To understand chronology, periodical and political history of South Asia.
2 To be able to situate events and processes within the framework of the history of South Asia.
3 To be able to read, analyse, and utilize academic literature on the subject of South Asia.
4 To be able to use the most important works on the history of the region in order to situate facts and find background information

5 To critically approach a source text.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures (30 h): for students with special status or in case of absence for medical reasons, overlapping courses, ... recordings from previous year can be made available. The student should approach the professor to request this. No new recordings will be made.
- Indiviual Assignments (10 h):The students write encyclopedia-entries on topics related to the course, using standard works in order to obtain the information they need.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: A History of India
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: yes
Language : English
Author : Kulke, Hermann, and Dietmar Rothermund.
ISBN : 978-0-41548-544-9
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : Yes

Type: Handbook

Name: India, a Short History
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: yes
Language : English
Author : Andrew Robinson
ISBN : 0-500-25199-1
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No

References

Course content-related study coaching

Individual assignment with technical support by the lecturer.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

80% exam, 20% written task

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3. Alternative time for feedback is possible
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy