

Course Outline: Cultural History of India through Bollywood

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/HIST 3799 3.0 Cultural History of India through Bollywood

Course Description

This course examines the cultural history of India since 1947 through the lens of popular Hindi cinema. It introduces students to major political, economic and social transformations in 20th century India, and analyses how these developments are reflected in popular cinema. In viewing Bollywood as a site of cultural production, the course traces the crucial role of Hindi cinema in framing popular understandings of the past and present and examines how these cinematic narratives are informed by India's postcolonial histories.

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: In-Person class, Lecture

Each session will comprise a lecture and class discussion/student group activities on the week's readings/films.

Course Materials

Sample reading: Tejaswini Ganti, *Bollywood: A guidebook to popular Hindi cinema* (Oxon: Routledge, 2004) Read: Chapter 1

Films: *Dilwale Dulhania le Jayenga*, trans. *Braveheart takes the bride* dir. Aditya Chopra, 1995

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Class Participation	20%	In-person	Weekly
In-class written assignment	20%	In-person	Week 4, Oct 6
Midterm	20%	In-person	Week 7, Nov 3
In-class written assignment	20%	In-person	Week 10, Nov 24
Take home assignment	20%	Take-home	End of term
	100%		