

Montgomery County Community College
 HIS 237
 Indian Civilization
 3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a topical introduction to Indian civilization from its ancient origins to the rise of modern, technological India. It will focus on the history and culture of India, including religious traditions, caste, imperialism and the British Raj, the Indian nationalist movement, the life and ethics of Gandhi, the impact of modernization, and India's global role.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 ESL Basic Writing II
- REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehensive Development II

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and evaluate problems, questions, and issues relating to Indian history, culture, and society.	Written Assignments, Discussion, Short Quizzes, Essay Examinations	Reading, Grading, and Observing Student Work. Should be last on the list since derives from the other activities. Due to its essential importance I have listed it first.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
<p>2. Describe the key factors and individuals that have influenced the development of Indian civilization.</p>	<p>Class and Online Discussions Lecture Small Group Focusing on Pre-prepared Specific Questions Primary and Secondary Reading Virtual Visits to an Indian Village, Archaeological Sites, Monuments, Temples, and Cities, use of Online Maps and Graphics A-V and Multimedia Materials, using the excellent Indian Film Collection of the MCCC Library, along with Internet Resources for Indian Music, Dance, and Religion</p>	<p>Student Presentations, using Smartboard Technology for Reports based on Graphics and Readings from the Internet Short Essays, Quizzes, and Written Examinations based on the required Reading</p>

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
<p>3. Explain the diversity of India, including its peoples, religions, and environment.</p>	<p>Class and Online Discussions Lecture Small Group Focusing on Pre-prepared Specific Questions Primary and Secondary Reading Virtual Visits to an Indian Village, Archaeological Sites, Monuments, Temples, and Cities, use of Online Maps and Graphics A-V and Multimedia Materials, using the excellent Indian Film Collection of the MCCC Library, along with Internet Resources for Indian Field trips, Hindu Temple in Montgomery County and South Indian Vegetarian Restaurant in Exton</p>	<p>Student Presentations, using Smartboard Technology for Reports based on Graphics and Readings from the Internet Short Essays, Quizzes, and Written Examinations based on the required Reading</p>

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
<p>4. Outline the historical development of the core values, beliefs, and ideas of Indian civilization.</p>	<p>Class and Online Discussions Lecture Small Group Focusing on Pre-prepared Specific Questions Primary and Secondary Reading Virtual Visits to an Indian Village, Archaeological Sites, Monuments, Temples, and Cities, use of Online Maps and Graphics A-V and Multimedia Materials, using the excellent Indian Film Collection of the MCCC Library, along with Internet Resources for Indian Field trips, Hindu Temple in Montgomery County and South Indian Vegetarian Restaurant</p>	<p>Student Presentations, using Smartboard Technology for Reports based on Graphics and Readings from the Internet Short Essays, Quizzes, and Written Examinations based on the required Reading</p>
<p>5. Evaluate the development of the idea and practice of non-violence, emphasizing the importance of Ashoka (2nd c. B.C.E.), Akbar (16th c. C.E.), and Gandhi.</p>	<p>Class and Online Discussions Lecture Small Group Activity to Focus on Specific Questions Primary and Secondary Source Readings Virtual Visits to an Indian Village, Archaeological Sites, Monuments, Temples, and Cities, and use of Online Maps and Graphics</p>	<p>Student Presentations, using Smartboard Technology for Reports based on Graphics and Readings from the Internet Short Essays, Quizzes, and Written Examinations based on the required Reading</p>

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
6. Discuss India's global role, including the external forces that have helped to transform Indian civilization, and India's impact on the world.	Class and Online Discussions Lecture Small Group Activity to Focus on Specific Questions Primary and Secondary Source Readings Virtual Visits to an Indian Village, Archaeological Sites, Monuments, Temples, and Cities, and use of Online Maps and Graphics	Student Presentations, using Smartboard Technology for Reports based on Graphics and Readings from the Internet Short Essays, Quizzes, and Written Examinations based on the required Reading

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Heat and Dust, Mountains and Monsoon - the ecology and environment of India; Historical origins – Ancient cities of Harappan Civilization
2. Religions of ancient India: Hindus, Jains, and Buddhists
3. "The Empire of Enlightenment": Ashoka and the Mauryan Empire, unity and division
4. "The Rule of the Dance": Kingdoms and culture of medieval southern India
5. Muslim invasion and conquest: The impact of Islam in India
6. The Mughal Empire: Akbar the Great, the Taj Mahal, and the dissolution of empire
7. The European Challenge in the Indian Ocean: Growth of European influence and power
8. "The Greatest Show on Earth": The British Raj, colonialism, and the clash of values and identities
9. "The Nation Awakens": From "The Mutiny" or "First War of Independence" to 1948
10. "Great Soul": Gandhi, using India's past to transform the 20th century
11. India Emerges: Nehru and the new nation
12. City man, Village man, modern India and its challenges

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Primary and secondary readings will be selected, as needed.

T. Troutman, *India: Brief History of a Civilization*, OUP, 1st edition, 2010 (ISBN 0199736324).

Examples of other materials:

Michael Wood's "Story of India," PBS video series.
Wesleyan University's "A Virtual Village," an example of a useful website, (<http://virtualvillage.wesleyan.edu/index.html>).

Examples of additional readings:

Selections from modern versions of the *Bhagavad Gita* and *Ramayana*
S. Blumm, "What is Hinduism"
D. Jacobsen, "Marriage: Women in India"
Selections from J. Freeman, *Untouchable* (1979)
Selections from Mohandas Gandhi
Shashi Tharoor, "An A to Z of Being Indian"

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Stephen Blumm

Date: July 2012

VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:

Victoria Bastecki - Perez, Ed. D.

Date: 1/2013

Revised by: Catherine Parzynski

Date: 11/29/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 12/4/2017



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.