

CENTRE FOR HISTORICAL STUDIES
The Modern City: Sites of Accumulation, Planning, and Citizenship
Janaki Nair

Lecture Course (optional) M.A Course No. M 41425; M.Phil. P41221

Mode of Evaluation:

2 Tutorials (1 credit each) + 1 End Semester Exam (2 credits)

M.A: 4 credits; MPhil: 2 credits

Method of Instruction: Lectures + Discussions

Reader available at Shubho Photostat. All students must purchase the Reader, and complete readings for the week before each class.

Course Description

How is the modern city distinct from its historical forebears? How has urbanization over the past 200 years marked a sharp shift away from earlier processes? This course will consider the transformations of urban forms, of economic and social life in the city, of the techniques of governmental power, of modes of association, conflict or solidarity, in the time of modernity. It will focus on three interrelated themes: the modern city as a site of *accumulation* and the exercise of governmental power; the design of cities, especially the origins and consequences of *urban planning*; *the social life of cities*, with particular reference to how *modern notions of citizenship* were forged or tested through mass movements, the law, or in everyday spatial practice.

While the focus of the course will be on the history of modern Indian cities, there will be continuous references to, and comparisons with, other locations of the world. Throughout the course, attention will be paid to the ways in which existing hierarchies, whether of caste, class, ethnicity or gender, were created, transformed or deepened in the modern period.

Week One: The City in the Age of Industry: The Victorian City and its counterparts

Lewis Mumford, *The City in History: Its Origins, its Transformations and its Prospects* (Originally published, Harcourt, Brace & World, 1961; MJF Books, New York, 1989), pp. 508-48.

Peter Hall, *Cities Of Tomorrow-an Intellectual History Of Urban Planning And Design In The Twentieth Century* (London: Blackwell, 1988), pp.14-46.

Week Two: Deindustrialisation and deurbanisation in early colonial India

Howard Spodek. "Studying the History of Urbanization in India", *Journal of Urban History*, 6 (1980), 251-294.

Atiya Habeeb in “Urban Atrophy in Colonial India: Some Demographic Indicators” *The City in Indian History* (Delhi: Manohar, 1991), 149-71.

Week Three: Urban Typologies: Port Cities, Qasbas, Temple Towns

Lewandowski, Susan. “Changing Form and Function in the Ceremonial and the Colonial Port city : An Historical Analysis of Madurai and Madras” K.N.Chaudhuri and Clive J Dewey eds. *Economy and Society: essays in Indian Economic and Social History* (Delhi: OUP, 1979), pp. 143-162.

Partha Mitter “The Early British Port Cities of India: Their Planning and Architecture Circa 1640-1757”, pp. 95-114.

Week Four: The Divided City: Cantonments, Hill Stations and Canal Towns

King, Anthony, *Colonial Urban Development: Culture, Social Power, and Environment* (1976), 22-40.

Judith Kenny “Climate, Race, and Imperial Authority: The Symbolic landscape of the British Hill Station in India” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 85.4 (December, 1995) 694-714.

Week Five: Signs of the Modern: Paris, Vienna

David Harvey, *Paris: Capital of Modernity* (London: Routledge, 2006), pp. 311- 340

Carl Schorske , “The Ringstrasse: Its critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism” *Fin de Siecle Vienna: Politics and Culture* (New York: Vintage Books, 1981), pp. 24-111.

Week Six: Utopias and Dystopias

Ebenezer Howard, “The Garden City” and Camillo Sitte “The Art of Building Cities” David R Weimar ed. *City and Country in America* (New York : Appleton and Century Crofts, 1962): pp. 117-137; 249-255.

Week Seven: The City Under Seige: Delhi and Lucknow 1857

Narayani Gupta, *Delhi Between the Empires* (Delhi: OUP, 1981), pp. 70-96.

Veena Talwar Oldenburg, “The City Must be Safe” *The Making of Colonial Lucknow: 1856-1877* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984), pp. 27-61.

Week Eight: Moral and Medical Panics

Stephen Legg “Disciplining Delhi” *Spaces of Colonialism: Delhi’s Urban Governmentalities* (Blackwell: 2007), pp. 82-148.

Prashant Kidambi, "A Disease of Locality" *The Making of an Indian Metropolis Colonial Governance and Public Culture in Bombay 1890-1920* (London: Ashgate, 2007), pp. 49-70.

Week Nine: Labour and Capital: Kanpur, Bombay, London

Rajnarayan Chandavarkar "From Neighbourhood to Nation: the rise and fall of the Left in Bombay's Girangaon in the twentieth Century" in *History Culture and the Indian city* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), pp. 121-190

Gareth Stedman Jones, *Outcast London*, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1971) 159-196.

Week Ten: The City Imagined

Ranajit Guha "The Colonial City and its Time(s)" *IESHR* 2008, 45, pp.329-351.

William J Glover, "Changing Houses" *Making Lahore Modern: Constructing and Imagining a Colonial City* (University of Minnesota Press, 2009), pp. 99-158

Week Eleven: The Modernist City: Brasilia, Singapore

James Holston *The Modernist City: An Anthropological Critique of Brasilia* (University of California Press, 1989): 101-144.

Chua Beng Huat, *Communitarian Ideology and Democracy in Singapore* (Routledge, 1997), pp. 124-168

Week Twelve: The Monumental City

John Agnew "The Impossible Capital: Monumental Rome under Liberal and Fascist Regimes, 1870-1943" *Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography*, Vol. 80, No. 4 (1998), pp. 229-240.

Ravi Kalia, "Bhubaneswar: Contrasting Visions in Traditional Indian and Modern European Architecture," *Journal of Urban History* 23 (Jan., 1997), 164-91

Week Thirteen: The Challenges of the Contemporary City

Partha Chatterjee "Are Indian Cities becoming Bourgeois at last?" in *Politics of the Governed: Reflections on Popular Politics in Most Parts of the World* (Delhi, Permanent Black, 2004), pp. 131-160.

Ratna Naidu, "Blight and Slum Formation" *Old Cities New Predicaments* (Hyderabad: Orient Longman: 1997), pp. 101-116.

Week Fourteen: Hope and Despair

Darshini Mahadevia, "A city with many borders" in Annapurna Shaw ed. *Indian Cities in Transition* (Orient Longman, 2007), pp. 341-389.

Thomas Blom Hansen, *Urban Violence in India: Identity Politics, 'Mumbai' and the Postcolonial City* (Delhi: Permanent Black, 2001), p. 37-69.

Week Fifteen: Utopia or Oblivion?

Marcus Daechsel “Seeing like an Expert, Failing like a state: Interpreting the Fate of a Satellite Town in Early Post Colonial Pakistan” *Colonial and Post-Colonial Governance of Islam: Continuities and Ruptures*. ed. Marcel Maussen; Veit Bader; Annelies Moors. (Amsterdam : Amsterdam University Press, 2011) p. 155-174

Romi Khosla, ‘The New Metropolis: Nehru and Aftermath’ *Social Scientist*, Vol. 43, No. 3/4 (March–April 2015), pp. 11-32.