SOUTH ASIAN SECURITY

Professeur(s) : Mélissa Levaillant
Année universitaire 2016-2017: Semestre de printemps

Descriptif du cours

This course aims to be a global introduction to South Asian security issues. It is intended to enable students to develop an informed and detailed knowledge of contemporary security issues in South Asia. In particular, it provides an understanding of national political and security institutions and of wider security issues in the region, including India-Pakistan conflict, nationalism and insurgencies in various countries (India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan). The teaching will draw upon aspects of history, international relations, security and development studies as well as sociology.

The class will be divided in three sections. The first one, from classes 1 to 4, will analyse India and Pakistan post-independence state building and how this has shaped their political and security perceptions, as well as the evolution of regional security dynamics. The second one, from classes 5 to 8, will study the main factors and characteristics of internal conflicts in South Asia, such as Islamist insurgency in Pakistan, Maoist insurgency in India and Nepal, and ethnic conflicts in Pakistan and Sri Lanka and will attempt to trace commonalities between these issues. The last section will focus on Afghanistan and the regional spill over effects of the conflict. It will analyse the origins and nature of the conflict since the Soviet invasion, examine the role played by global and regional powers in the (in) security of the country, and assess the consequences of the conflict on the security and stability of the region.

Evaluation:

This course will be based on several complementary pedagogical approaches:

1. **Class attendance, participation and discussion on weekly reading.** Students are expected to attend each class ready to contribute to the discussion and to have done the reading assigned for each session prior to class.
2. A **10-minutes press review** on a topic chosen by the students (2 students per presentation).
3. A **short exam** on the required readings.
4. A **15-minutes presentation** each student is expected to make starting from the second course. The outline of the presentation must be e-mailed on the Tuesday before the class in question at: melissa.levaillant@sciencespo.fr. Any late submission will result in penalties being applied.
5. A **3500-word essay** (+/- 10%). Word length includes footnotes and appendices but excludes bibliography. Students will propose their own question for the essay, which must be agreed in advance with the professor.

All students should note that attendance at classes is mandatory and that all deadlines are absolute. A failure to submit work by the appropriate deadlines will result in a mark of zero.
Sessions

Session 1: Introduction (25.01)

• Presentation of the course.
• Repartition of the presentations.
• General introduction.

Part I. Modern South Asia: Historical and Geopolitical Perspectives

Session 2. India and South Asian Security: Ideas, Strategy and Structures (01.02)

Press review

Presentations
P1. India’s strategic approach in the formative years of its independence.
P2. India: a hegemonic power in South Asia?

Reading

Session 3. Pakistan and South Asian Security: Ideas, Strategy and Structures (08.02)

Press review

Presentations
P3. Actors and ideologies in the formative years of Pakistan’s independence.

Reading:

Session 4. The Changing Face of South Asian Security in the Post-Cold War Era (22.02)

Press review

Presentations:
P6. The Kargil War.

Reading:
Part II. Political Violence in South Asia

Session 5. Roots of Ethno-Political Conflicts in Sri Lanka and Pakistan (01.03)

*** Submissions of the essays’ titles ***

Press review

Presentations:
P7. What explain the resurgence of Baluch nationalism in Pakistan?
P8. The LTTE: liberation and oppression movement.

Reading:

Session 6. Left-Wing Insurgencies in Nepal and India: Between Military and Political Strategies (Attention, la séance aura lieu le 10 mars de 8h à 10h)

Press review

Presentations:
P9. The rise of naxalism in India.
P10. Have the Nepalese Maoists ‘won’?

Reading:

Session 7. Islamist Movements of Pakistan, Kashmir and Bangladesh (15.03)

Press review

Presentations:
P12. The rise of Islamism in Bangladesh.

Reading:

Session 8. Political, Cultural and Violent manifestations of Nationalism in India and Sri Lanka (22.03)

Press review
Presentations:

Reading:

Part III. Afghanistan and Regional (in)Security

Session 9. The Successive Failures of External Interventions in Afghanistan (29.03)

*** Submission of the essays ***

Projection of the documentary: Tell spring not to come this year, directed by Saeed Taji Farouky and Mickael McEvoy (2015).

Session 10. Building Peace in Afghanistan (05.04)

Press review

Presentations:
P16. Regional dimensions of the Afghan conflict.

Reading:

Session 11. Is There a Place for Regional Security Architecture in South Asia? (12.04)

Press review

Presentations:
P17. Does nuclear deterrence work in South Asia?
P18. SAARC: the solution to India’s poor management of the region?

Reading:

Session 12. Emerging Security issues in South Asia (19.04)

*** Short exam on the required readings***
Press review

Presentations:
P20. The rise of global terrorism in South Asia.

Bibliography

*** Each presentation and essay's bibliography must include at least one academic book, one peer-reviewed journal and one article published by a think tank.***

Books:
Chakma, Bhumitra, *South Asia in Transition* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan), 2014

**Peer-reviewed Journals:**
- India Review
- Strategic Analysis
- Third World Quarterly
- International Security
- Washington Quarterly
- Journal of South Asian Studies
- India Quarterly
- India Review
- Asia Pacific Review

**South Asian think tanks:**

**India:**
- Center for Policy Research
- Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies
- Delhi policy Group
- Observer Research Foundation
- Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses

**Sri Lanka:**
- International Centre for Ethnic Studies
Regional Centre for Strategic Studies

**Bangladesh:**
Bangladesh Institute for International and Strategic Studies
Centre for Policy Dialogue

**Pakistan:**
Islamabad Policy Research Institute
Institute for Regional Studies
Institute for Strategic Studies
Sustainable Development Policy Institute.

**Nepal:**
Centre for South Asian Studies
Asia Center for Strategic Studies