



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Western Frontiers: Caves Temples Protests (traveling class in Maharashtra India) - 35807

Last update 06-08-2018

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Asian Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Yigal Bronner

Coordinator Email: yigal.bronner@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Prof Yigal Bronner

Course/Module description:

The seashore, to the west, faces Arabia; the Western Ghats, surrounded by mist, display magnificent water falls, spectacular caves that house monks, gods, and fine works of art, alongside formidable forts; the open land is still home to old communities of pastoralists; the gods who decided to take a permanent residence on the banks of the rivers attract millions of pilgrims every year; Sufi saints in their tombs share the same clientele; a long tradition of protest against the fixed homes of both gods and saints; the metropolitan areas of Pune and Mumbai, inching closer to one another and showcasing high-tech, low-tech, legendary wealth, despicable poverty, the largest film industry in the world, and living lineages of classical Hindustani musicians: welcome to Maharashtra, the third largest state in the Indian union.

Course/Module aims:

Maharashtra is a frontier region and a living laboratory where many key experiments took place, experiments that eventually shaped several of the classical models of India in fields ranging from literature to architecture and from religion to politics. The main purpose of this traveling seminar is to see and understand this experimental nature of the region. The students will become familiar with this region's history, its cultural patterns, and its current state of affairs.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

The students will familiarize themselves with the cultural heritage of Maharashtra, will become acquainted with the history of its main political power, will become connoisseurs of the living artistic traditions of the region, and will begin to understand their complicated present life and dilemmas.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, field trips, lectures in situ, concerts, flooding of the senses.

Course/Module Content:

The caves of Ajanta and Elora, the history of the Ahmadnagar Sultanate, the pilgrimage centers of Pandharpur and Solahpur, and the metropolitan cities of Pune and Mumbai.

Required Reading:

A detailed reading list will be provided later.

Additional Reading Material:

Please read carefully:

https://asia.huji.ac.il/sites/default/files/asia/files/qvl_qvr_mhrshtrh_1.pdf

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 100 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

Registration is conditioned on the approval of the professors.