SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES COUNCIL

The MacMillan Center
210 Luce Hall, 203.436.3517
http://southasia.macmillan.yale.edu

Chair
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Assistant Professors Subhashini Kaligotla (History of Art), Sarah Khan (Political Science), Priyasha Mukhopadhyay (English)

Lecturer Carol Carpenter (School of the Environment)

Senior Lectors Seema Khurana (Hindi), Swapna Sharma (Hindi)

Lector Aleksandar Uskokov (Sanskrit)

Students with an interest in South Asian Studies should apply to one of the University's degree-granting departments, such as Anthropology, History, Political Science, Economics, or Religious Studies. The South Asian Studies Council is part of the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies. It has been organized to provide guidance to graduate students who desire to use the resources of the departments of the University that offer South Asia-related courses.

The South Asian Studies Council aims to bring together faculty and students sharing an interest in South Asia, and it supplements the curriculum with seminars, conferences, and special lectures by scholars from Yale as well as visiting scholars. It provides information concerning grants, fellowships, research programs, and foreign study opportunities.

Language instruction is offered in Hindi and Sanskrit. Students planning to undertake field research or language study in South Asia may apply to the council for summer fellowship support.

For information and program materials, contact the South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, PO Box 208206, New Haven CT 06520-8206; or visit our website, http://southasia.macmillan.yale.edu.

COURSES

HNDI 510a, Elementary Hindi Staff
An in-depth introduction to modern Hindi, including the Devanagari script. Through a combination of graded texts, written assignments, audiovisual material, and computer-based exercises, the course provides cultural insights and increases proficiency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Hindi. Emphasis placed on spontaneous self-expression in the language. No prior background in Hindi assumed.

HNDI 520b, Elementary Hindi II Staff
Continuation of HNDI 510.

HNDI 530a, Intermediate Hindi I Swapna Sharma and Seema Khurana
First half of a two-term sequence designed to develop proficiency in the four language skill areas. Extensive use of cultural documents including feature films, radio broadcasts, and literary and nonliterary texts to increase proficiency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Hindi. Focus on cultural nuances and various Hindi literary traditions. Emphasis on spontaneous self-expression in the language. Prerequisite: HNDI 520 or equivalent.

HNDI 532a, Accelerated Hindi I Swapna Sharma
Development of increased proficiency in the four language skills. Focus on reading and higher language functions such as narration, description, and comparison. Reading strategies for parsing paragraph-length sentences in Hindi newspapers. Discussion of political, social, and cultural dimensions of Hindi culture as well as contemporary global issues.

HNDI 540b, Intermediate Hindi II Swapna Sharma and Seema Khurana
Continuation of HNDI 530, focusing on further development of proficiency in the four language skill areas. Prerequisite: HNDI 530 or equivalent.

HNDI 542b, Accelerated Hindi II Swapna Sharma
Continuation of HNDI 532. Development of increased proficiency in the four language skills. Focus on reading and higher language functions such as narration, description, and comparison. Reading strategies for parsing paragraph-length sentences in Hindi
newspapers. Discussion of political, social, and cultural dimensions of Hindi culture as well as contemporary global issues. Prerequisite: HNDI 532 or equivalent.

HNDI 550a, Advanced Hindi Seema Khurana
An advanced language course aimed at enabling students to engage in fluent discourse in Hindi and to achieve a comprehensive knowledge of formal grammar. Introduction to a variety of styles and levels of discourse and usage. Emphasis on the written language, with readings on general topics from newspapers, books, and magazines. Prerequisite: HNDI 540 or permission of instructor.

HNDI 560a, Modern Hindi Literature Swapna Sharma
An advanced language course designed to develop overall language skills and to enrich cultural insight through the literature of different genres. Literature is the cultural canvas of a society. Reading modern Hindi literature and translations of vernacular literature from various states in India enhances the understanding of Indian culture and society. Prerequisite: HNDI 550 or permission of the instructor.

HNDI 598a or b, Advanced Tutorial Staff
For students with advanced Hindi language skills who wish to engage in concentrated reading and research on material not otherwise offered by the department. The work must be supervised by an adviser and must terminate in a term paper or its equivalent. Prerequisites: HNDI 540, and submission of a detailed project proposal and its approval by the language studies coordinator.

SAST 820a / HIST 896a, Readings in South Asia: Across the Disciplines Rohit De and Sunil Amrith
Since the emergence of subaltern studies in the 1980s, South Asian historiography has been dominated by debates over the methods and theory that have come to influence the broader discipline of history. The seminar introduces participants to the major debates in South Asian studies through reading the original texts alongside newer scholarship addressing the themes of bureaucracy, secularism, visual media, political economy, and the environment.

SKRT 510a, Introductory Sanskrit I Aleksandar Uskokov
An introduction to Sanskrit language and grammar. Focus on learning to read and translate basic Sanskrit sentences in the Indian Devanagari script. No prior background in Sanskrit assumed. Credit only on completion of SKRT 520/LING 525.

SKRT 520b, Introductory Sanskrit II Aleksandar Uskokov
Continuation of SKRT 510/LING 535. Focus on the basics of Sanskrit grammar; readings from classical Sanskrit texts written in the Indian Devanagari script. Prerequisite: SKRT 510/LING 535.

SKRT 530a, Intermediate Sanskrit I Aleksandar Uskokov
The first half of a two-term sequence aimed at helping students develop the skills necessary to read texts written in Sanskrit. Readings include selections from the Hitopadesa, Kathasaritsagara, Mahabharata, and Bhagavad Gita. Prerequisite: SKRT 520 or equivalent.

SKRT 540b / LING 548b, Intermediate Sanskrit II Aleksandar Uskokov
Continuation of LING 538, focusing on Sanskrit literature from the kavya genre. Readings include selections from the Jatakamala of Aryasura and the opening verses of Kalidasa’s Kumarasambhava. Prerequisite: LING 538/SKRT 530 or equivalent.

SKRT 550b, Advanced Sanskrit: Readings in Indian Philosophy and Aesthetics Aleksandar Uskokov
This advanced language course introduces the jargon of the philosophical disciplines (theory of knowledge, metaphysics, philosophy of mind and language, philosophical theology, hermeneutics) and aesthetics in the several systems of learning in ancient and classical India, across the traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Additionally, the course introduces topics of philosophical significance in foundational texts such as the Upanisads, portions of the Mahabharata and the Puranas, and the Buddhist sūtra literature. Special attention is given to matters of style, scholastic techniques, and advanced morphology and syntax. The course thus combines advanced language instruction with learning intellectual and cultural content, and it facilitates training in primary research in one of the classical languages of South Asia. Prerequisite: SKRT 540.