South Asian Studies

Chairperson of Undergraduate Studies: William Mazzarella, H 327, 834-4873, mazzarel@uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The B.A. program in South Asian studies offers students an opportunity to study a major world civilization from the perspective of the social sciences. At the same time, humanities courses constitute a significant part of the program: students are required to take at least one year of a South Asian language and are required to take the South Asian civilization sequence; students may include humanities and Divinity School courses either as required or as elective courses. Although advanced work in the program (upper-level course work and B.A. paper) is expected to be oriented to social science concerns and methodologies, today's permeable boundaries between the social sciences and the humanities open the way to course work and B.A. projects that integrate the two perspectives.

Program Requirements

The concentration program requires eleven courses and a B.A. paper. Required courses include (1) the South Asian civilization sequence (SOSC 23000-23100); (2) three courses in a South Asian language, the level depending on prior achievement and on how the general education requirement is met; (3) three courses in the social sciences, preferably from a single discipline; and (4) three electives, preferably courses that strengthen the disciplinary emphasis or reading courses for the B.A. paper. Students should discuss their choice of an appropriate language sequence with the chairperson early in their program of study.

Summary of Requirements

2 SOSC 23000-23100
3 courses in a South Asian language
3 approved social sciences courses (South Asian courses on the following list may be used to meet this requirement)
3 approved electives
1 SASC 29900 (B.A. Paper)
11

Bachelor's Paper. All candidates for the B.A. degree in South Asian studies are required to write a bachelor's paper of approximately thirty pages in length. Although they may choose to begin their project earlier, students must initiate work on their B.A. paper no later than the beginning of Autumn Quarter of their senior year. Students are expected to work with a faculty supervisor and to consult the chairperson of undergraduate studies about the suitability of their project.

Grading. The eight nonelective courses in the South Asian studies program must be taken for quality grades.
Honors. The decision of the award of honors is not made on the basis of any formal program. Students who wish to compete for honors should see the concentration chair.

Faculty


Courses

For descriptions of the following courses, consult the relevant concentration section of the catalog or the professional school.

Anthropology


Economics


ECON 26500. Environmental Economics. (=ENST 26500, PPHA 32800) PQ: ECON 20100 and 21000, or consent of instructor. Concurrent enrollment in ECON 21000 is allowed. G. Tolley. Winter.

Sociology


South Asian Languages and Civilizations


SALC 22601/32601. Tagore, Chatterjee, and Dutt: Bangla Literature, Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century. Texts in English. C. Seely. Autumn.


South Asian Studies

SASC 20000-20100. Introduction to the Civilization of South Asia I, II. (=ANTH 24101-24102, HIST 10800-10900, SALC 20100-20200, SOSC 23000-23100) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in social sciences. Must be taken in sequence. This course meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. S. Pollock, Autumn; M. Alam, Winter.

SASC 29700. Readings in South Asian Studies. PQ: Consent of faculty supervisor and undergraduate studies chair. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

SASC 29900. B.A. Paper. PQ: Consent of faculty supervisor and undergraduate studies chair. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. Autumn, Winter, Spring.