



Centre for Regional Studies (CRS)
School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad
Foundation Course
(January to June Session)

Course Title : Regions and Diversity of India

No. of Credits : 3

Instructor : Prof. Sheela Prasad

Course Code : --

Objective of the Course:

To introduce the concept of Region, trace its history and map its contemporary geography and politics in the Indian context, in an effort to understand the spatial diversity that defines the country.

Module 1: Outlining the concept of Region and detailing the changes in definition

From ancient period onwards to present times, the centrality of space, place, and region as a theme has been with us, though the prominence of 'region' ebbs and flows with time.

Readings:

Much of this thinking has been documented and written by Whittlesey, Blache, Hartshorne, Blij and Massey

Module 2: Historical Regions

Discussing the emergence and development of historical regions in the context of India in the pre-colonial period. Students will have to make presentations on one historical region as part of the Coursework.

Readings:

B.P.Sahu, Stein, Kulke, Cohn, Veluthat, Fox; Bhangya Bhukya

Module 3: The Geographical Region

This module maps the spatial diversity of India and identifies the Geographical regions that make India.

Readings:

Ranjit Tirtha, C.D. Deshpande, Sopher; Spate; Maps (Survey of India)

Module 4: Region in Contemporary Politics

This module discusses the major factors that have shaped the politics of Region today – Colonialism; Nationalism; Partition; State Re-organisation; Identity;

Regionalism. A few Case studies would be taken up for more detailed discussion :
Bodoland, Gorkhaland, Vidharbha; Bundelkhand.

Readings:

Tillin, Vora; Aloysius; Khilnani, Dsouza

Further Readings (Select Chapters need to be read along with Journal articles)

Allen, J., D. Massey, A. Cochrane (1998) Rethinking the Region. New York : Routledge
Bhukya Bhangya (2017) History of Telangana. Hyderabad : Orient BlackSwan
Blij, H.D., (1980) Regions : Concepts in geography. New York : McGraw Hill
Claval, P. (2002) An Introduction to Regional Geography. Jaipur : Rawat Publications
Cohn, Bernard S. (1987) An Anthropologist among the Historians and Other Essays.OUP
Fox, Richard G. (1977) realm and Region in Traditional India. New Delhi : Vikas
Hussain, M. Geography of India. McGraw Hill
Khullar, D.R. India : A Comprehensive Geography
Parasher-Sen, A, (1993) Social and Economic History of early Deccan. New Delhi : south Asia Books
Sahu, B.P. (2012) The Changing Gaze; regions and the Constructions of Early India. OUP
Stein, B. and David Arnold (eds.) 2010 A History of India. Wiley-Blackwell
Sud, Nikita (2014) “The state in the era of India’s sub-national regions: Liberalization and land in Gujarat”, *Geoforum*, Vol 51 January, pp 233-242
Vora, R. and Anne Feldhaus (eds.) 2006. Region, Culture and Politics in India. Manohar

Evaluation

- There will be 3 Internals of 20 Marks each conducted during the Semester.
- First Internal –QUIZ will be in 1st week of March
- Second Internal Test (Short Answers) will be 1st week of April
- Third Internal Group Project due First week of May. Other Group Activities through the Semester will include Debates, Presentations etc.
- End Semester Exam in May = 60 Marks
- 100% Class Attendance is advised and Class participation is encouraged and will be graded as part of Third Internal.
- Punctuality in class will be appreciated – no attendance for those who come more than 10 minutes late.