#thekashmirsyllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

#TheKashmirSyllabus compiles a list of sources for teaching and learning about Kashmir. It foregrounds voices, histories, and aspirations of people from within Kashmir, and moves beyond prior scholarship that often took security studies approaches and thereby privileged the statist perspectives of India and Pakistan. This critical body of work on Kashmir allows for a lens into the broader study of the modern state, occupation, nationalism, sovereignty, militarization, social movements, resistance, human rights, international law, and self-determination.

This is an interdisciplinary working syllabus that includes academic scholarship as well as literature, memoirs, and journalistic pieces. It is an incomplete and evolving work in progress. We hope that this syllabus will be used by those within Kashmir studies and beyond, and that it will be useful to academics and non-academics. Although we have minimized repetition across the weekly modules, users are encouraged to think flexibly about how particular readings may also speak to multiple weekly themes across the syllabus.

Syllabus goals:

- To understand how Kashmiris themselves have made sense of their political past, present and future, through work that centers Kashmiri experiences
- To foreground emerging perspectives by Kashmiri scholars, activists and artists, including women and other often marginalized voices
- To widen disciplinary approaches to studying Kashmir, beyond international relations (IR) scholarship, which largely presents Kashmir through the statist lenses of India and Pakistan
- To suggest paths for decolonial, transnational and anti-occupation solidarities among movements for freedom and emancipation, through a close study of the region

This syllabus is certainly not an exhaustive or comprehensive list of resources or readings, but we hope that it will allow for a diverse range of teachable materials for each of the weekly themes. If you have any suggestions for additions to make to this syllabus, please email: thekashmirsyllabus@gmail.com

COURSE OUTLINE

BACKGROUND: TIMELINES


WEEK 1: THEORIZING OCCUPATION AND RESISTANCE


WEEK 2: HISTORIES OF THE PRESENT


WEEK 3: THE MILITARIZATION OF EVERYDAY LIFE

● Banday, Zulkarnain. 2018. “‘Journalism is not a crime’: The Unlawful Crackdown on the Media in Kashmir.” Caravan Magazine, October 15.
● Vijayan, Suchitra. 2016. “Curfew is the Camp.” *Warscapes*.

**WEEK 4: BORDERS, REGIONS AND BOUNDARIES**


**WEEK 5: STATE OF EMERGENCY AND THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF IMPUNITY**


WEEK 6: MARTYRDOM AND MEMORYSCAPES


WEEK 7: WOMEN’S ORGANIZING IN KASHMIR


Jha, Abishek. 2015. “Beyond ‘Victimhood’: Uzma Falak’s Film On The Role Of Kashmiri Women In The Resistance.” Interview with Uzma Falak in Youth Ki Awaz.


**WEEK 8: MAPPING SEXUAL VIOLENCE: FROM KUNAN POSHPORA TO SHOPIAN TO HANDWARA**


WEEK 9: KASHMIRI PANDITS AND THE POLITICS OF HOMELAND

- Ali, Agha Shahid. "Farewell."

WEEK 10: CLAIMING CULTURE, CONTESTING SPACES: STONE PELTING, ART, AND RAGDA

Junaid, Mohamad. 2013. “Stone Wars.” Guernica, August

WEEK 11: WINNING HEARTS AND MINDS

WEEK 12: CLIMATE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECOLOGIES


WEEK 13: IMAGINING FREEDOMS, SEEKING SOLIDARITIES

- Ahmad, Eqbal, “A Kashmiri Solution to Kashmir”. Excerpts available.
- Essa, Azad. 2019. “When It Comes to Palestine and Kashmir, India and Israel are Oppressors-in-Arms.” *Middle East Eye*.

**Week 14: ARTFUL RESISTANCE**

**Fiction**


**Poetry**


**Creative Nonfiction**


Photography


Documentary and Film

Dorabji, Tara and Jamie DeWolf. 2019. Here Still.
Falak, Uzma. 2015. Till Then the Roads Carry Her.
Fatima, Iffat. 2013. Where Have You Hidden My New Moon Crescent?
Ghose, Rana and Baba Tamim. 2013. Take it in Blood.
“Omar Abdullah Heckled By Kashmiri American Protesters At University Of Berkeley”

HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS


Websites to Follow on Coverage of Kashmir

● Al Jazeera English
● TRT World
● Lost Kashmir History
● Wande Magazine
● Greater Kashmir
● Free Press Kashmir
● Kashmir Reader
● Kashmir Narrator
● Association for Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP)
● Jammu Kashmir Coalition for Civil Society (JKCCS)

Shoutout to the [Puerto Rico Syllabus](#) and the [Islamophobia is Racism syllabus](#) - in solidarity.