

**PIRATES, PILGRIMS AND POETS: GLOBALIZATION IN INDIAN OCEAN HISTORY**

Rutgers University, New Brunswick – 3 Credits  
College Avenue Campus – Honors College S124  
Monday/Thursday 9:50-11:10am – 01:508:337, Index # 20312

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Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3:30pm  
or by appointment

**Course Description**

Globalization is a phenomenon that seems to be occurring everywhere around us and yet seems to have no origin. Is the world really flat? Or have certain places, people and things become better connected than others? This course seeks to answer these questions by exploring when and why certain places became better connected, people became more mobile and things gained wider circulation. The Indian Ocean has been an important space of economic and cultural exchange for millenia. We can then see where and how ideas, commodities and people became incorporated into the Indian Ocean world and spread beyond it.

The readings and assignments in the course are designed to make you think about how economics, politics, culture interact to make connections stable or fragile. The course is divided into four thematic sections: technology and exchange, politics and space, people and mobility, and culture and representation. Each theme will cover three to four weeks and will allow us to explore specific components of the dynamics we think of as globalization.

**Required Texts**

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons: The Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006)  
(Recommended) Marina Carter and Khal Torabully, *Coolitude* (London: Anthem Press, 2002)  
These available at Rutgers Book Store, all other readings will be available on Sakai

**Policies and Expectations**

*Attendance:* You are expected to attend every class, arrive on time, having read the readings for the week and prepared to discuss them. If you have a legitimate reason that forces you to miss class you need to inform me as soon as you are aware of it. You will still be expected to complete readings, assignments and cover any material from the lecture you missed. Unexcused absences will be penalized, and more than 5 unexcused absences from class will result in a failing grade. To self-report an absence, go to: <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> If you are late to class or ill-prepared, this will be reflected in your class participation grade. Students who attend every class will receive extra credit of 5 percentage points on their final exam grade.

*Electronic Devices:* All cell phones must be turned off or on silent (not vibrate) during class. Laptops and tablets will not be permitted in class, and use of Facebook, email or other non-class related applications during class time will also be penalized. Medical exceptions will be accomodated

*Disabilities:* If you have any learning disabilities or need other accommodations you must register with Disability Services and inform the instructor by the second week of class. See information here: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>.

*Academic Integrity:* In all course work you are expected to uphold the university's standards for academic integrity. (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>) Lapses in academic integrity include but are not limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating dishonesty – these will not be tolerated.

### **Evaluation**

*Class Participation:* You are expected to come to class everyday having completed the readings listed for that week and to thoughtfully engage with the readings and your classmates during class time. Every week you will also post a blog entry (1-2 paragraph response to the readings) and one discussion question based on the readings for the following week. Blogs/questions must be posted by 5:00pm on the Sunday preceding that week (for example: the blog responding to the readings for Week 3 should be posted on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>).

*Short Papers:* At the end of weeks 6 and 12 students will submit papers of 4-6 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt font with 1 inch margins). These papers will be in response to an essay prompt provided by the instructor and the papers should use information from lectures, discussions and the reading materials from the course. Further information regarding expectations and grading for this paper will be provided in class. Papers should be uploaded to Sakai promptly at 9am before the first class of the week (Monday). Late papers will be penalized 5 percentage points each day they are late (so from 94(A) to 89(B+) or 82(B) to 77(C+)). Extensions will only be permitted for valid emergencies and must be requested before the assignment is due.

*Take Home Final Exam:* On the final day of class, students will be provided with an essay prompt which highlights the themes and questions explored in the course. The essay should be 5-7 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt font with 1 inch margins), and it should use information from lectures, discussions and the reading materials from the course. Further information regarding expectations and grading for this paper will be provided in class. Final papers will be due exactly one week later during exam period.

<b>Grading Breakdown</b>		<b>Grading Scale</b>		
Class Participation	25%	Percentage Totals	Grade	Credit Points
Short Paper 1	20%	89.5-100%	A	4.0
Short Paper 2	20%	84.5-89.49%	B+	3.5
Take Home Final Exam	35%	79.5-84.49%	B	3.0
		74.5-79.49%	C+	2.5
		69.5-74.49%	C	2.0
		59.5-69.49%	D	1.0
		0-59.49%	F	0

*This syllabus is subject to change, if any changes are made you will be notified.*

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### Week 1 – Introduction

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 1-35

## Technology and Capitalism

### Week 2 – Shipping

Frederick Cooper, “What is the concept of Globalization good for?” pp. 189-213

Erik Gilbert, *Dhows and the Colonial Economy in Zanzibar, 1860-1970*, pp. 84-109

Marc Levinson, *The Box: How the Shipping Container Made the World Smaller and the World Economy Bigger*, pp. 171-188

### Week 3 – Smuggling

Eric Tagliacozzo, *Secret Trades, Porous Borders: Smuggling and States Along a Southeast Asian Frontier 1865-1915*, pp. 318-76

Johan Mathew, *Margins of the Market: Trafficking and Capitalism across the Arabian Sea*, pp. 82-113

### Week 4 – Commodities and Consumers

Sven Beckert, “Emancipation and Empire: Reconstructing the Worldwide Web of Cotton Production in the Age of the American Civil War” pp.1405-1438

Jeremy Prestholdt, “On the Global Repercussions of East African Consumerism” pp. 755-782

### Week 5 – Finance

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 72-119

Wambui Mwangi, “Of Coins and Conquest: The East African Currency Board, the Rupee Crisis, and the Problem of Colonialism in the East African Protectorate” pp. 763-87

## Politics and Space

### Week 6 – Early Modern Pirates

#### **Monday 2/20 Short Paper 1 is Due**

Sebastian R. Prange, “A Trade of No Dishonor: Piracy, commerce and Community Across the Western Indian Ocean” pp. 1269-1293

Documents from the Case of Henry Every

### Week 7 – Modern Piracy

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 36-71

Selections from James Buckingham and Salil ibn Ruzaiq

Jay Bahadur, *Pirates of Somalia*, pp. 57-75

### Week 8 – Empires

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 120-147

Geoff Wade, “The Zheng He Voyages: A Re-assessment” pp. 37-58

### Week 9 – Third World Rebels

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 148-192

Maureen Swan, *Gandhi: The South African Experience*, Ch. 6 and Conclusion

### **People and Mobility**

Week 10 – Slaves

Joseph Harris, *The African Presence in Asia*, pp. 77-98

Janet Ewald, “Crossers of the Sea: Slaves, Freedmen, and other Migrants in the Northwestern Indian Ocean, c. 1750-1914” pp. 69-91

History of a small slave buried alive, or filial love, Trans. Pier M. Larson

Week 11 – Coolies

Sunil Amrith, “Indians Overseas?: Governing Tamil Migration to Malaya” pp. 231-61

Marina Carter and Khal Torabully, *Coolitude*, pp. 45-87, 217-26

Week 12 – Pilgrims

#### **4/10 (Monday) – Short Paper 2 is Due**

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 193-232

Mike Miller “Pilgrim’s Progress: The Business of the Hajj” pp. 189-228

### **Culture and Representation**

Week 13 – Intellectuals and Cosmopolitanism

Sugata Bose, *A Hundred Horizons*, pp. 233-271

Isabel Hofmeyr, “Gandhi’s Printing Press” pp. 112-127

Week 14 – Hybrid Literatures, Traveling Movies

Devleena Ghosh and Stephen Muecke, “Indian Ocean Stories” pp. 24-43

Amitav Ghosh “Of Fanás and Forecastles” pp. 15-31

Week 15 – Conclusion

No Readings, prepare for Final Exam Paper