University of North Texas
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Anthropology
ANTH 3700.200/300
Peoples and Cultures of South Asia

Instructor
Shannon Cronin
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Phone: 628.698.2724
Email: Shannon.cronin@unt.edu
Office hours: By appointment

Communication Expectations: My preferred mode of communication is via UNT email. You can access this account through your own unt email address or by using the Message tab in Canvas. Students can expect a response within 24 hours during the week, and 48 hours during the weekend. Feedback and grades on assignments will be provided within one week of the due date.

Instructional Assistants
Thien Chau Bui
Email: ThienChauBui@my.unt.edu

Lindsay Fournier
Email: LindsayBrown2@my.unt.edu

Mandy Jordan
Email: MandyJordan2@my.unt.edu

Office Hours: To be announced

Course Description:

This course covers the cultural region of South Asia, which includes the countries of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, and occasionally Afghanistan, Tibet, and Burma, as well as the large South Asian diaspora around the world. Through a study of the region's geography and history, we will challenge a-historical representations of South Asia as timeless, spiritual, poor and conflict-ridden. Then we will shift to thinking about South Asia less as a place and more as a symbol referencing particular responses to universal questions, such as: What does it mean to be a person? How should society be organized? What causes violent conflict? Finally, we will end the class by considering what the South Asian experience in the U.S. can teach us about immigration, racism and structural violence. In addition to reading academic texts, students will gain an appreciation for the region through films, literary fiction, and blogs.

Course Structure:

The course is 100% online and asynchronous. It will consist of three units: (1) Geography & History (4 weeks); (2) Culture & Conflict (7 weeks); (3) Global diaspora (3 weeks).

Pre-requisites: There are no pre-requisites for the course

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Critique how South Asia has been imagined in the U.S.
2. Identify the role of history and geography in producing South Asia as a cultural region.
3. Apply cultural concepts and theories inspired by South Asian societies.
4. Challenge the many myths about South Asian societies and conflicts.

5. Analyze what the South Asian diaspora can teach us about immigration, racism, and structural violence in the U.S.

Required Materials

Mines, D. & S. Lamb, eds. 2010. *Everyday Life in South Asia: 2nd Edition*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

- All other reading materials will be provided in Canvas.

Technical Requirements & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements
- Computer
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Camera
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Canvas Technical Requirements (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy
- Using Canvas
- Using word
- Using computer camera and microphone to record short videos

Success in an Online Course
Visit this site for tips on "How to Succeed as an Online Student" (https://clear.unt.edu/teaching-resources/online-teaching/succeed-online).

Technical Assistance
Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940-565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm
Telephone Availability:
- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight

- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit <u>Canvas Technical Help</u>
(<u>https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328</u>)

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use "I" statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual's experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as "YELLING!"
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using "text-talk" unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these <u>Engagement Guidelines</u> (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Course Requirements

Graded Work	Percent of Final Grade	What each submission contributes to final grade
Syllabus Quiz	1	1
6 Packback Questions	18	3
3 Webcam Discussions	12	4
3 Papers	27	9
4 Quizzes	40	10

Core questions	2	2
Total	100	

Student Expectations

1. Lectures/Reading: For every lesson, listen to and view the lecture(s) and complete the reading.

2. Syllabus Quiz: During the first week of class, complete the quiz covering the syllabus.

3. Activities: Complete six online interactive "activities". Although ungraded, the corresponding discussions, webcams and papers will be based on these activities.

4. Packback Questions: Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback Questions platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback Questions is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications. Your participation on Packback will count toward 18% of your overall course grade.

In order to receive full credit, you should submit the following per each deadline period:
- 1 open-ended question and 200 word description with a minimum Curiosity Score of 60, worth 10 pts of each assignment grade
- 2 Responses (minimum 100 words) every week with a minimum Curiosity Score of 60, worth 10pts of each assignment grade
- Half credit will be provided for questions and responses that do not meet the minimum curiosity score

How to Get Help from the Packback Team: If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, please read their FAQ at help.packback.co. If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at help@packback.co. For a brief introduction to Packback Questions and why we are using it in class, watch this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmikrD68

5. Webcam discussions: Complete 3 short video posts and 2 responses. In response to a given course-related question, each student will make 3-minute videos on their computers and upload them to Canvas discussion boards. The goal of the webcam is to verbally articulate an argument in a concise and precise manner. This does not mean an editorial or opinion piece, but rather it requires using course material to formulate an analytical argument. Audio-recordings without video will be accepted. The video will be worth 3pts. and each response worth 1pt. for a total of 5pts.

6. Papers: Write and submit three papers. For each paper, students will need to apply course material to their own observations, experiences, or independent research. Submit as a word document and upload to Canvas. Rubrics will be provided.

7. Quizzes: Complete 4 quizzes. Each quiz will consist of 15-20 multiple choice, multiple answer, T/F, and matching questions. Students will be given 60 minutes to complete them, and will be allowed to make two attempts of which the final score will be the average.

8. Core questions: at the end of the term, students will be asked to answer two short questions in compliance with UNT's Core assessment.

9. Extra Credit films: There will be two opportunities to watch a film and write a short response in relation to course concepts. Complete responses will grant students +1% added to their final grade. Students will be able to view the films via Thursday night "movie madness" opportunities or on their own.

Grading

All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59-under	F

COURSE POLICIES

1. Attendance Policy

Although the course will have no synchronous meetings, students are required to log-in to the course's Canvas shell multiple times each week.

COVID-19 Impact on Attendance
While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

2. Withdrawal: If you are unable to complete this course you must officially withdraw by the University-designated date (for a "W" with instructor approval). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that YOU must initiate. **I cannot do it for you**. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F."

3. Assignment Policy
The due dates, instructions, and submission process for each assignment are provided in the course schedule and in each week's module.

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback
- It is the instructor's responsibility to facilitate a learning environment in which students feel comfortable and prepared to engage in provocative conversations and debates. The instructor will also provide clear instructions and evaluation criteria for each learning activity, and accessible course material.
- I aim to return graded work to you within one week of the due date. When this is not possible, I will send an announcement to the class.

4. Submitting Late Work: No coursework will be accepted via email. Late work will only be accepted if the student requests an extension at least 24 hours before the deadline. Without an excuse, the student must provide documentation of a university-excused absence (opens in a new window) (Links to an external site.).

5. Course Communication: I expect you to check your UNT email on a regular basis as this will be the only format for all course communication outside of the classroom. I require 24 hours to respond to any emails sent between Monday and Friday. Over the weekends and on holidays I require 48 hours to respond. Please include the name of the course you are taking with me in the body of your email. If you email me with a question that the syllabus answers, I will not reply to you. If you are writing an email from a mobile device, please remember to use a formal tone (salutations, full sentences, correct spelling and punctuation, signature).

6. Extra Credit: Students will have the following opportunities to gain extra credit:

1. EC Films (explained above)
2. If more than 67% of the class completes the end-of-the-year SPOT evaluation, each student will receive 1% extra credit point added to their final grade.

7. Syllabus Change Policy

The instructor reserves the right to change the course schedule. Any changes will be posted as announcements on Canvas, as well as noted in Lesson modules.

<u>**UNT Policies**</u>

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the <u>ODA website</u> (<u>https://disability.unt.edu/</u>).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to

view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect
Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [April 5-22] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.
Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students

Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:
(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:
(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.
Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification
UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy,

and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

   Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Class Recordings

Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes.   Students may not post or

otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Academic Support & Student Services
Student Support Services

Mental Health
UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Chosen Names
A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- UNT Records
- UNT ID Card
- UNT Email Address
- Legal Name

*UNT EUIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.
Pronouns
Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.
You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:
- What are pronouns and why are they important?

- How do I use pronouns?
- How do I share my pronouns?
- How do I ask for another person's pronouns?
- How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?

Additional Student Support Services
- Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- Student Legal Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- Career Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
- Multicultural Center (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- Pride Alliance (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- UNT Food Pantry (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services
- Academic Resource Center (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- Academic Success Center (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- UNT Libraries (https://library.unt.edu/)
- Writing Lab (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)