

MINOR IN SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts

Dean: Dr. Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo

Minor in South Asian Studies

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Program Scope

South Asia refers to Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. These countries are members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The Minor in South Asian Studies is multidisciplinary and designed to provide students with a broad understanding of the culture, history, economics, and politics of South Asia and its diaspora. The region of South Asia is a crucial area of study given its linguistic, ethnic, and religious diversity (its traditions draw from Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, and others), its experience of British colonial rule and independence, its recent economic expansion and technological influence globally, and the widespread migration of South Asians over the last century. The study of South Asia thus offers students opportunities to explore pressing questions concerning colonialism and nationalism, political conflict and government, economic liberalization, cultural diversity and its expression in literature, art, and popular culture, and globalization.

The South Asian Studies minor is useful for students planning careers in education, social service, law, politics, government, business, media, and art, both nationally and internationally. It also prepares students for graduate study in a number of academic fields.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the diversity and complexity of South Asian culture, politics, history, immigration, and other social formations.
- Articulate and critically evaluate main discourses and debates in the scholarship of South Asian studies through research and response papers, exams, and class presentations.
- Apply theory and methodology from a range of academic disciplines in the arts, humanities, and social sciences to communicate the causes of South Asian historical and current debates.

South Asian Studies Minor

The minor consists of 18 units; three courses are taken from the core curriculum, which give students a basic framework for South Asian studies. These courses fully concentrate on South Asia and/or the diaspora and provide students with a broad introduction to the history, culture, and politics of South Asia (one course each needs to be taken from the clusters of "Culture of South Asia," "History and Politics of South Asia," and "South Asian Diaspora").

The remaining units can be taken from the core curriculum or from a long list of electives. Elective courses provide the opportunity for more in-depth or topical and comparative study as well as the study of South Asia in relation to other regions of the world.

The minor is designed to give flexibility to students who can select from courses across disciplines, including Art History, Asian American Studies, Economics, English, Ethnic Studies, History, Holistic Health, Humanities, International Business, International Relations, Philosophy, Political Science, and Women and Gender Studies.

For more information, contact the program directors: Santhi Kavuri-Bauer (santhi@sfsu.edu) or Christopher Chekuri (cchekuri@sfsu.edu).

South Asian Studies Minor – 17-19 units

A minimum of 6 upper-division units are required to complete the minor.

All coursework used to satisfy the requirements of the minor must be completed with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Core (9-10 units)

Select one course from each of the three core areas (9-10 units). The core consists of three core areas identified as *Culture of South Asia*, *History and Politics of South Asia*, and *South Asian Diaspora*.

Core Area 1: Culture of South Asia (3 units)

Select one:

Code	Title	Units
HUM 535		3
HUM 536		3

Core Area 2: History and Politics of South Asia (3-4 units)

Select one:

Code	Title	Units
HIST 370/ CLAS 582/HUM 582	Tales from Ancient India: Hinduism and Buddhism	3
HIST 371		
HIST 372	India and the British Empire	3
HIST 373	Contemporary India	3
I R 326		4
PLSI/I R 412	South Asian Politics	4

Core Area 3: South Asian Diaspora (3 units)

Select one:

Code	Title	Units
AA S 540	South Asians in the United States	3
RRS 657/ AA S 541	South Asian Diaspora	3

Electives (8-9 units)

Select electives from core courses not used to satisfy core requirements or from:

Code	Title	Units
AA S 210	History of Asians in the United States	3
or AA S 510	Asian Americans in California	
ARTH/HUM 205	Asian Art History	3
ARTH 421	Special Topics in Art History	3
ARTH/HUM 496	Art, Architecture, and Space in the Islamic World	3
HIST 374/ HUM 586	Bollywood and Beyond: Indian History Through Film	3
HIST 382	History of Iran and Afghanistan 1500 - Present	3
HUM 366	India's Gandhi	3
PHIL 509	The Buddhist Tradition	3
PLSI/I R 416	Ethnicity and Nationalism	4