

LEARNING GOALS AND OUTCOMES IN SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

OVERVIEW

South Asia, which contains nearly a quarter of the world's people, refers to the countries comprising the South Asian subcontinent: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and sometimes Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Tibet. The concentration consists of a program of study combining language training, off-campus study, required core courses in various disciplines, and supporting courses, including a designated capstone course. The purpose of the concentration is to provide cross-cultural interdisciplinary understanding of a complex civilization that is both ancient and modern, and of great significance in the contemporary world.

To complete the concentration a total of 42 credits is required, with at least 6 credits drawn from each of the three Asian Studies distribution areas (Arts and Literature, Humanities, and Social Sciences). 18 credits must be in core courses, drawn from at least two of the three Asian Studies distribution areas, and 24 credits from supporting courses, drawn from at least two of the three Asian Studies distribution areas, including a designated South Asia-related capstone course. Courses taken on off-campus programs in South Asia may be applied to the concentration. Normally, at least one term of off-campus study in South Asia is a part of the student's concentration.

Finally, since no South Asian languages are regularly taught at Carleton, the concentration requires the closest equivalent that can be managed to one year of study of a South Asian language, obtained through one or more of the following: off-campus study; summer programs at colleges, universities, or institutes; independent study at Carleton.

The core courses are listed below:

[ARTH 182](#): History of South Asian Art (Not offered in 2007-2008)

[HIST 160](#): History of Classical India

[HIST 161](#): History of Modern India

[MUSC 248](#): Music of India (Not offered in 2007-2008)

[RELG 150](#): Religions of South Asia

[SOAN 255](#): Sociology, Culture, and Politics in South Asia

Learning Goals:

The South Asian Studies Concentration is meant to complement majors in departments such as History, Sociology and Anthropology, and Religion. The Concentration is

designed to give students a well-rounded background in the distinctive culture and history of South Asia. By means of a combination of basic core courses and electives, as well as off-campus studies, the primary learning goal is to acquire a balanced, multi-disciplinary understanding of this major cultural, political, economic, and demographic region of the world.

Learning outcomes are assessed through the series of courses taken in the concentration, and include brief reaction papers, longer research papers, examinations, and oral presentations. Apart from the capstone seminar, there is no senior integrative or other requirement.