South Asian Masculinities (REL 277)

Spring 2012
MW 1:10–2:30

PROFESSOR:	Andy Rotman
OFFICE:	Pierce Hall 203
OFFICE HOURS:	MW 4:00–5:00 or by appointment
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REQUIREMENTS

1. You are expected to attend class regularly, finish the assigned readings on time, and participate in class discussions actively (and, one hopes, enthusiastically).

2. To facilitate class discussion, you will be expected to make regular postings on Moodle, responding to the readings directly as well as to the postings of other students. I expect you to post 250+ words each week. Your postings should demonstrate a thoughtful and rigorous engagement with the material. Creativity is encouraged, rambling is not. Although you are welcome to focus on a particular article or passage within a week's assignment, you should try to contextualize that material within the rest of the week's readings. Postings for each week should be submitted by Saturday at midnight of that week. In short, postings made during a particular week should be posted in the folder for that week. At the end of the semester, you will be expected to print out all of your posts and submit them to me. These are due on the last day of classes.

3. Class participation will constitute a significant portion of your grade. Hence, read the material, post your reactions and insights, and come to class prepared to engage in a high level discussion of the material. Keep in mind Wittgenstein's aphorism, "Even to have expressed a false thought boldly and clearly is already to have gained a great deal." To this end, students will be asked to introduce the readings for each class.

4. A 10-page research paper will be due at the end of the semester (May 8th). Research topics must be submitted to me for approval, and then they should be posted. Many of you will have overlapping projects, and it would be good for you to work collaboratively. During the last week of the semester, you will be expected to present your research as a work in progress.

In summary, your grade will be determined by the quality of your participation in class, your postings on Moodle, and your research paper.

REQUIRED READING

Alter, Joseph S. 2000. *Knowing Dil Das: Stories of a Himalayan Hunter*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Reddy, Gayatri. 2005. *With Respect to Sex: Negotiating Hijra Identity in South India*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Subha Rao and Pratap Mulick. 1998. *Valmiki's Ramayana.* Amar Citra Katha. Bombay: India Bookhouse Limited.

•texts are available at Grécourt Bookshop in the Campus Center
•the source book is available at Paradise Copies, 30 Crafts Avenue, 585–0414

WEEK 1 (1/30, 2/1)
i. INTRODUCTION

ii. LOCATING MASCULINITY
•Friedman, David. M. 2003. *A Mind of Its Own: A Cultural History of the Penis*. Penguin.
"The Demon Rod," 1–54
•Doniger, Wendy and Sudhir Kakar, trans. 2002. *Kamasutra*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.
"The Lifestyle of the Man-about-town," 17–21

WEEK 2 (2/6, 2/8)
i. MANLY GODS, GODLY MEN: ŚIVA
•Doniger, Wendy. 1975. *Hindu Myths: A Sourcebook Translated from the Sanskrit*. Penguin Books.
Excerpts, 137–174
•Kakar, Sudhir. 1978. *The Inner World: A Psycho-analytic Study of Childhood and Society in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
"Shiva and Narcissus," 154–160

ii. MANLY GODS, GODLY MEN: KṚṢṆA
•Doniger, Wendy. 1975. *Hindu Myths: A Sourcebook Translated from the Sanskrit*. Penguin Books.
Excerpts, 204–231
•Kakar, Sudhir. 1978. *The Inner World: A Psycho-analytic Study of Childhood and Society in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
"Cult and Myths of Krishna," 140–153

WEEK 3 (2/13, 2/15)
i. MANLY GODS, GODLY MEN: RĀM
•Rao, Subha and Pratap Mulick. 1998. *Valmiki's Ramayana.* Amar Citra Katha. Bombay: India Bookhouse Limited.
entire book
•Doniger, Wendy. 1975. *Hindu Myths: A Sourcebook Translated from the Sanskrit*. Penguin Books.
Excerpts, 197–204
•Kishwar, Madhu. 1997. *Manushi* 98. http://www.manushi-india.org/pdfs_issues/articles/Yes%20to%20Sita,%20No%20to%20Ram.pdf (SB)
"Yes to Sita, No to Ram! The Continuing Popularity of Sita in India," 20–31

ii. MANLY GODS, GODLY MEN? BUDDHA
•Rotman, Andy, trans. forthcoming. *Divine Stories, part 2*. Boston: Wisdom Publications.
"The Story of Rupāvatī," 1–15
•Mrozik, Susanne. 2006. In *Bodily Citations: Religion and Judith Butler*, edited by Ellen Armour and Susan St. Ville. New York: Columbia University Press.
"Materializations of Virtue: Buddhist Discourses on Bodies," 15–47

WEEK 4 (2/20, 2/22)
i. POETIC CONSTRUCTIONS OF MANHOOD IN VEDIC INDIA
•Whitaker, Jarrod L. 2011. *Strong Arms and Drinking Strength: Masculinity, Violence, and the Body in Ancient India*. New York: Oxford University Press.
Introduction, 3–33
2. Brave Men and Manliness, 35–57

ii. OEDIPUS, CASTRATION, PARANOIA
•Ramanujan, A. K. 2004. In *The Collected Essays of A. K. Ramanujan*, edited by Vinay Dharwadker. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
"The Indian Oedipus," 377–397
•Carstairs, G. Morris. 1956. "Hinjra and Jiryan: Two Derivatives of Hindu Attitude to Sexuality." *British Journal of Medical Psychiatry* 29: 128–138.

WEEK 5 (2/27, 2/29)
i. THE INTIMATE ENEMY
•Nandy, Ashish. 1998. *Exiled at Home:* Comprising *At the Edge of Psychology, The Intimate Enemy,* and *Creating a Nationality*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
The Intimate Enemy (1983):
Preface, iv–xvi
"The Pyschology of Colonialism: Sex, Age and Ideology in British India," 1–64

ii. ELITE MANLINESS IN MOGHUL INDIA
•O'Hanlon, Rosalind. 1997. "Issues of Masculinity in North Indian History: The Bangash Nawabs of Farrukhabad." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 4 (1): 1-19.
•O'Hanlon, Rosalind. 1999. "Manliness and Imperial Service in Mughal North India." *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 42 (1): 47–93.

WEEK 6 (3/5, 3/7)
i. THE EFFEMINATE AND EMASCULATED
•Sinha, Mrinalini. 1995. *Colonial Masculinity: The "Manly Englishman" and the "Effeminate Bengali" in the Late Nineteenth Century*. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press.
4. Potent Protests: The Age of Consent Controversy, 1891, 138–180
Conclusion, 181–185

ii. MASCULINITY ON THE MARGINS
•Merchant, Hoshang, ed. 1999. *Yaraana: Gay Writing from India*. New Delhi: Penguin Books.
Selections, 1–56

WEEK 7 (3/12, 3/14)
i. HIJRAS: THOUGHTS ON A THIRD GENDER
•Reddy, Gayatri. 2005. *With Respect to Sex: Negotiating Hijra Identity in South India*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

1. The Ethnographic Setting, 1–16
2. Hijras, Individuality, and Izzat, 17–43
3. Cartographies of Sex/Gender, 44–77

ii. HIJRAS: IDENTITY AND PRACTICE
•Reddy, Gayatri. 2005. *With Respect to Sex: Negotiating Hijra Identity in South India*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

4. Sacred Legitimization, Corporeal Practice: Hindu Iconography and Hijra Renunciation, 78–98
5. "We are All Musalmans Now": Religious Practice, Positionality, and Hijra/Muslim Identification, 99–120
6. (Per)Formative Selves: The Production of Gender, 121–141

SCREENING: *Bombay Eunuch*. A Gidalya Pictures Production. Directed by Alexandra Shiva, Sean MacDonald, and Michelle Gocovsky. 2001. (71 minutes).

WEEK 8 (~~3/19~~, ~~3/21,~~)
RELAX . . . SPRING BREAK

WEEK 9 (3/26, 3/28)
i. COPS AND ROBBERS IN MUMBAI
•Mehta, Suketu. 2004. *Maximum City*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Number Two After Scotland Yard, 131
Ajay Lal: The Blasts and the Gangwar, 131–167
Encounter, 168–184
Black Collar Workers, 185–190
Mohsin: The D-Company, 190–206
Satish: The Dal Badlu, 206–234
Chotta Shakeel: The Don in Exile, 234–249

SCREENING OUTSIDE OF CLASS: *Deewar* [*The Wall*]. Directed by Yash Chopra. Produced by Gulshan Rai. 1973. (160 minutes).
Monday and Tuesday, 7 pm (location to be announced)

ii. WHY IS THE ANGRY YOUNG MAN SO ANGRY?
•Virdi, Jyotika, 1993. "The 'Fiction' of Film and 'Fact' of Politics: Deewar." *Jump Cut* 38: 1–11. (http://www.ejumpcut.org/archive/onlinessays/JC38folder/Deewar.html)
•Mazumdar, Ranjani. 2000. In *Making Meaning in Indian Cinema*, edited by Ravi S. Vasudevan. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
"From Subjectification to Schizophrenia: The 'Angry Man' and the 'Psychotic' Hero of Bombay Cinema," 238–264

WEEK 10 (4/2, 4/4)
i. SOMATIC NATIONALISM 1
•Alter, Joseph S. 1994. "Somatic Nationalism: Indian Wrestling and Militant Hinduism." *Modern Asian Studies* 28 (3): 557–588.
•Alter, Joseph S. 2002. In *Every Day Life in South Asia, edited by Diane P. Mines and Sarah Lamb*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.
"Nervous Masculinity: Consumption and the Production of Embodied Gender in Indian Wrestling," 132–145

ii. SOMATIC NATIONALISM 2
•Alter, Joseph S. 2000. *Gandhi's Body: Sex, Diet, and the Politics of Nationalism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
Preface: History, Body, Culture, ix–xviii
1. Gandhi's Body, Gandhi's Truth, 3–27
2. The Ethereal Politics of the Mahatma's Fasts, 28–52

WEEK 11 (4/9, 4/11)
i. MASCULINITY AND MORALITY
•Van der Veer, Peter. 2001. *Imperial Encounters: Religion and Modernity in India and Britain*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.
Chapter 4: Moral Muscle: Masculinity and its Religious Uses, 83–105
•Hansen, Thomas Blum. 1996. "Recuperating Masculinity: Hindu Nationalism, Violence, and the Exorcism of the Muslim 'Other.'" *Critique of Anthropology* 16 (2): 137–172.

ii. ENCOUNTERING MASCULINITIES, NORTH AND SOUTH
•Chopra, Radhika. 2004. In *South Asian Masculinities: Context of Change, Sites of Continuity*, edited by Caroline Osella, Filipppo Osella, and Radhika Chopra. New Delhi: Kali for Women.
"Encountering Masculinity: An Ethnographer's Dilemma," 36–59
•Anandhi, S., J. Jeyaranjan, R. Krishnan. 2002. "Work, Caste and Competing Masculinities: Notes from a Tamil Village," *Economic and Political Weekly* 37 (24): 4403–14.

WEEK 12 (4/16, 4/18)
i. HUNTING AN IDENTITY 1
•Alter, Joseph S. 2000. *Knowing Dil Das: Stories of a Himalayan Hunter*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
Preface, xi–xvii
Part I. Bal Kand / The Book of Childhood, 3–33
Part II. Aranya Kand / The Forest Book, 37–86

ii. HUNTING AN IDENTITY 2
•Alter, Joseph S. 2000. *Knowing Dil Das: Stories of a Himalayan Hunter*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
Part III. Shram Kand / The Book of Labor, 89–139
Part IV. Uttarkhand / Himalaya, 143–175

WEEK 13 (4/23, 4/25)
i. NO CLASS
SCREENING OUTSIDE OF CLASS: *Amar, Akbar, Anthony*. Produced and directed by Manmohan Desai. M. K. D. Films, 1977. (174 minutes).
Monday and Tuesday, 7 pm (location to be announced)

ii. MUSCULAR HINDUISM, GANDHIAN ISLAM, AND TRANSNATIONAL CHRISTIANITY
•Thomas, Rosie. 1995. In *Consuming Modernity: Public Culture in a South Asian World*, edited by Carol A. Breckenridge. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
"Melodrama and the Negotiation of Morality in Mainstream Hindi Film," 157–182
•Mishra, Vijay. 2002. *Bollywood Cinema*: *Temples of Desire*. New York: Routledge.
"Chapter 6: Segmenting/Analyzing Two Foundational Texts," 171–178, 189–201
•Rotman, Andy. (forthcoming). "Inspector Amar and the Making of Masculinity: Muscular Hinduism and the Construction of the New Indian Family"

WEEK 14 (4/30, 5/2)
i. PRESENTATIONS

ii. PRESENTATIONS