# Education, Society & Science in India

**SHEKHAR KRISHNAN**  
Fall 2015 – Mon 15.00-17.00 & Wed 11.00-13.00/15.00-17.00

This graduate seminar is designed to expose doctoral students to the history and sociology of modern science education in colonial and post-colonial India, with a focus on ideas and institutions, concepts and thinkers, and major debates in this emerging field.

The seminar will meet twice per week for four months, and is spread over three units or themes of five weeks each on 1. “Colonialism & Modernity”, 2. “Nation & State” and 3. “Education, Policy & Society”.

Participants shall take turns writing **three 500-600 word** review/discussion papers on the assigned readings for prior circulation via the mailing list, as well as to lead discussion in that day’s seminar session. Names of discussants are noted in **bold** below.

The main requirement is a long essay or research paper of **5,000-6,000 words**, comprising a literature review, social, demographic or other data with a theoretical argument on education, science and society in India. Rough drafts are due mid-way in the term.

Deadlines for paper preparation and completion are noted in the schedule and syllabus below. All seminar participants are expected to complete close reading of assigned texts in advance in every session, and be prepared to participate in person and via the mailing list.

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1. Colonialism & Modernity

1.0. INTRODUCTION

MONDAY 3 AUGUST – Course Introduction

FRIDAY 7 AUGUST: STEPHEN PHILIP


1.1. Modernity & Rationality

WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST: DURGAPRASAD KARNAM


THURSDAY 13 AUGUST: MIHIKA SHAH


1.2. Colonial Power

MONDAY 17 AUGUST: KANCHAN MISHRA


WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST: CHARUDATTA NAVARE


1. Colonialism & Modernity

1.3. Colonial Science

MONDAY 24 AUGUST: SHUBHAYAN KABIR

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST: RATNA

1.4. Indian Science I

MONDAY 31 AUGUST: NO CLASS

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER: SUJATA VARDARAJAN

1.5. Indian Science II

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER: NO CLASS – Paper Outline & Bibliography Due

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER: STEPHEN PHILIP

History of Education Course, Dr P. Varadaran

MONDAY-TUESDAY 14-15 SEPTEMBER
• “Beginnings of Educational Policy-Making, 1700-1843”

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER
• “Transfer of Power and Charles Wood's Despatch for Education, 1854”

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER
• “Indian Education (Hunter) Commission, 1883”

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER
• “From the Imperial Bill, 1913 to the Wardha Commission, 1939”
2. Nation & State

2.1. Indian Nationalism

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER: DURGAPRASAD KARNAM


WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER: MIHILA SHAH


• SUPPLEMENT: Kishwar, Madhu. ‘Arya Samaj and Women’s Education.’ Economic and Political Weekly 21, no. 17 (26 April 1986).

2.2. Democracy & Education

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER: RATNA


WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER: SUJATA VARDARAJAN


2. Nation & State

2.3. National Science

MONDAY 5 OCTOBER: STEPHEN PHILIP

WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER: KANCHAN MISHRA
• Advani, Shalini. ‘Educating the National Imagination.’ Economic and Political Weekly 31, no. 31 (3 August 1996): 2077–82.

### NO CLASS – A.R.M. & Reading Week, 12-16 October

MONDAY 19 OCTOBER: PAPER PRESENTATIONS – Paper Half Rough Draft Due

2.4. Science Fiction

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER: CHARUDATTA NAVARE

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER: PAPER PRESENTATIONS

3. Education, Policy & Society

3.1. Democracy & Merit

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER: MIHIKA SHAH
• Subramaniam, Jayasree. ‘Perceiving and Producing Merit: Gender and Doing Science in India.’ Indian Journal of Gender Studies 14, no. 2 (1 June 2007): 259–84.

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER: RATNA
3.2. Popular Science & Culture

**FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER 15.00-17.00: CHARUDATTA NAVARE**


3.3. Knowledge & Revolution

**SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER – Paper Full Rough Draft Due**

**WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 11.00-13.00: DURGAPRASAD KARNAM**


3.4. Schools & Society

**MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER 15.00-17.00: SUJATA VARDARAJAN**


**WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 15.00-17.00: STEPHEN PHILLIP**


**FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER 11.00-13.00: KANCHAN MISHRA**


3.5. CONCLUSION

**MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER 17.00-20.00: OPEN SESSION & DINNER – Final Paper Due**
Other Suggested Readings