

**Nirma University**  
**Institute of Law**  
**B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) and B.Com.LL.B. (Hons.) Programmes**  
**Academic Year 2018-19**  
**Institute Elective**

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Course Code	2IE1015
Course Title	Theorizing India: Construction, Contestation and Critique

**Course Learning Outcome (CLO)**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and interpret the construction of Ancient, Medieval and Modern India by the four dominant (colonial, Marxist, nationalist and subaltern) schools of History writing about India and its political implication.
2. Appreciate the importance of world view of the major figures of nationalist movement such as Gandhi, Tagore, Ambedkar, Periyar, Savarkar, Savitribai Phule.
3. Analyse the contemporary debates surrounding the Indian State and take an informed and balanced approach.

**Syllabus**

**Teaching Hours: 60**

**Unit: I The dominant Imaginings of India**

**10 Hours**

- 1.1 History and memory of the nation state.
- 1.2 Genealogy of Indian Nationalism

**Unit: II The Liberal -Nehruvian Framework**

**06 Hours**

- 2.1 Modernity and India
- 2.2 The Liberal imaginings of India
- 2.3 Nehruvian Worldview and its relevance

**Unit: III Gandhian intervention**

**08 Hours**

- 3.1 Gandhi's critique of Modernity
- 3.2 Gandhi and search for Truth and Non-Violence
- 3.3 Gandhi and Nationalism

**Unit: IV The Hindutva Re-Visioning of India**

**08 Hours**

- 4.1 Hindutva and Hinduism: The Debate

  
38

- 4.2 Savarkar and the search for authentic Self
- 4.3 Hindutva politics in contemporary India

**Unit: V The Dalit Challenge**

- 5.1 Ambedkar, Periyar and the question of caste
- 5.2 Dalit male and female autobiographies as a testimony
- 5.3 Place of Dalits in Neo-Liberal India

**11 Hours**

**Unit: VI Re-reading the Bhakti tradition**

- 6.1 Bhakti tradition and its challenge to the dominant tradition
- 6.2 Kabir and his milieu
- 6.3 Bhakti and search for new self

**06 Hours**

**Unit VII Feminist Re-reading of Nation & its exclusions**

- 7.1 Women and the Nationalist question
- 7.2 Women (auto)biography: Rassundari Devi, Pandita Ramabai, Savitribai Phule

**11 Hours**

**Suggested Readings:**

1. Guru Gopal & Sarukkai Sundar, (2012), The Cracked Mirror- An Indian Debate on Experience and Theory, New Delhi- Oxford University Press
2. Nandy Ashish, (1994), The Illegitimacy of Nationalism; Rabindranath Tagore & the politics of self, Delhi- Oxford University Press
3. Nandy Ashish, (1983), The Intimate Enemy; Loss and Recovery of self under colonialism, Delhi- Oxford University Press
4. Khilnani Sunil, (1998); The Idea of India, London- Farrar Strauss and Giroux
5. Brown Judith M.( Ed.), (2011); The Cambridge Companion to Gandhi, New Delhi- Cambridge University Press
6. Chatterjee Partha, (1993), Nationalist Thought & the Colonial World: A Derivative Discourse London, Zed Books
7. Raghuramraju A., (2011), Modernity in Indian Social Theory, New Delhi, Oxford University Press
8. Bhargava Rajeev (Ed.), (2010), Understanding Contemporary India: Critical Perspectives, New Delhi, Orient Black Swan

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