

1. This course takes up themes and some of the reading that were in HIS2416, but HIS2417 puts more weight on political economy, with a focus on water resources. The course followed the emnebeskrivelse.
2. There were 11 students, out of the 24 who sign up for the exam, who followed the lectures. Then three of these wrote mid-course that they had to stop attending lectures (because of: 1) illness), 2) illness plus the pressure of finishing her Master thesis, and 3) job expanded to full-time). Eight students completed the obligatory essay. Seven students took the exam with the following results: A – 2; B – 1; C – 2; D – 1; F – 1. It is possible that the new material (Indian politics), plus the course lectures being given in English, discouraged others from continuing.
3. For the lecturer, it was ironic that so few students took the exam, because from her vantage point, HIS2417 seemed much more successful in terms of being comprehensible to the students than its predecessor, HIS2416. That the students were satisfied with the course is indicated in the student evaluations, in which the course received 5.4 (How satisfied are you with the subject as a whole?) out of six (based on five students completing the form, “Periodic evaluation of HIS2417”). The political economy approach appears to be more accessible than the political cultural approach to post-colonial Indian politics. For the question, How did the lectures work?, the course received 5.2 out of six.
4. I think that the combination of an unfamiliar topic explained in English, as mentioned in point 2, above, produces small class sizes. Students need to keep up with the reading assigned for the class periods. There appears to be a need to distribute notes from the lectures and more complete vocabulary lists for students to use during the lecture period.
5. HIS2417 was designed to meet student interest in the relationship between politico-economic change and the environment in a developing country.
6. See point 4, above. It is necessary for the instructor to provide more supplementary materials.