

REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL SECURITY IN SOUTH ASIA

(PCS 811) - CHs: 3.0

1. **Course Objectives:** Solutions to intra-regional concerns, including peace and security through regional organizations, groups and bodies are gaining increasing prominence the world over. This course evaluates the progress of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). This evaluation goes beyond economic integration to present a detailed appraisal of cooperation under the overarching themes of economic cooperation, environmental security, human welfare, and cooperation in security matters. The students will find out the answers to the following question: Why is there a gulf between rhetoric and implementation most notably in sensitive areas relating to traditional security at SAARC? In addition, the focus will also be on finding lessons for SAARC from other relevant regional mechanisms, for example ASEAN.
2. **Outcomes:** Students should be able to
 - a. Demonstrate theoretical and practical knowledge of regionalism and regional security;
 - b. Develop an assessment of causes and consequences of various security problems in South Asia;
 - c. Critically evaluate the work of SAARC in both traditional and non-traditional security areas; and
 - d. Compare SAARC with ASEAN & other regional organizations.
3. **Contents**
 - a. Theories of regionalism and regional security
 - b. Traditional security: Inter-state conflicts and SAARC; Security challenges in South Asia
 - c. Evolution of regionalism in South Asia
 - d. SAARC, since 1985
 - e. Non-traditional security issues in South Asia with focus on economic security/development, environmental security (climate change, natural disasters, water security, and forestry), health security etc.
 - f. Cooperation within SAARC in security matters like terrorism, drug smuggling and human trafficking.
 - g. Opportunities for SAARC
 - h. Lessons from other regional organizations, such as ASEAN for SAARC

4. **Reading List:**

- a. Ahmed, Zahid Shahab. *Regionalism and Regional Security in South Asia: The Role of SAARC*. Surrey: Ashgate Publishing Limited. 2013.
- b. Brar, Bhupinder. 2003. "SAARC: If functionalism has failed, will realism work?" *South Asian Survey* 10(1):31-41.
- c. Khan, Rashid Ahmad. 2009. "The role of observers in SAARC." *IPRI Journal* IX(2):1-16.
- d. Mehdi, Syed Sikander. "A Peace Museum on the Wagah Border," *South Asian Journal*. Issue No. 10, October-December (2005): 116-126.
- e. Naik, Niaz A. 1999. "SAARC - From association to community: prospects and problems." *South Asian Survey* 6(2):333-343.
- f. Sabur, A K M Abdus. 2003. "Management of intra-group conflicts in SAARC: the relevance of ASEAN experiences." *South Asian Survey* 10(1):85-100.
- g. Silva, K M De. 1999. "The European community and ASEAN: Lessons for SAARC." *South Asian Survey* 6(2):271-282.
- h. Sobhan, Rehman. 2005. "The Twelfth SAARC Summit: charting a road map for South Asian Cooperation." *South Asian Survey* 12(1):3-19.