

NORTHWESTERN

ART HISTORY

2024 WINTER COURSES



ART HIST 480-0

Studies in Asian Art:

The Other Avant Garde

Professor: Yuthika Sharma
Day/Time: W 2:00p - 4:50p

Recent scholarship has highlighted the emergence of a cosmopolitan Avant Garde in 1920s the city of Calcutta ignited by a 1922 exhibition of works by Bauhaus artists such as Klee and Kandinsky. Further, scholars have studied a parallel push for a pan-Asian aesthetic emerging out of intense exchanges with artists from Japan. This seminar looks at the long history of these experimental encounters by taking a backward glance into the spaces of British imperial exhibitions in 1903 and 1911 that brought the so-called traditional and experimental paintings and craft objects together. Broadening the arena of modernist approaches, the seminar considers how these exhibitions reconfigured Mughal history and design to revitalize nationalist and revolutionary art practices. Assessment for this seminar will include reading facsimiles of 19th and early 20th century exhibition catalogues and writing two exhibition reviews.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):

All assigned readings and materials will be available on Canvas.

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

Peace & Justice

WEINBERG DISTRO AREA: N/A

FOUNDATIONAL DISCIPLINES & OVERLAYS: N/A

Image: The Passing of Shah Jahan, Abanindranath Tagore, Calcutta 1902, Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata.