In 1947, India was partitioned into India and Pakistan. Since then, these countries have wrestled with issues of governance and development, but colonial rule casts a long shadow over their efforts. This course introduces students to the complex politico-economic landscape of the subcontinent by examining how the idea of development changes in modern South Asian history. How are development efforts embedded in contexts of politics, society, and culture? How do political systems affect decisions? This course considers these questions by examining themes such as: the colonial state’s construction of railway and irrigation networks; Gandhi’s critique of industrialization; Nehru’s vision of an industrial economy; the challenges posed by Partition and militarization of Pakistan; the Green Revolution; the onset of economic deregulation.