Syllabus developed as part of *Mapping for the Urban Humanities* course,
Summer 2016
Center for Spatial Research, Columbia University

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<div align="center">

BC 3830: Bombay/Mumbai and its Urban Imaginaries
(Fall 2016)

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*PLEASE NOTE: This course requires willingness to work collectively and collaboratively. In
addition to learning about the colonial and postcolonial history of a major metropolis, you will
master basic spatial mapping techniques through online tutorials and in consultation with the
spatial data librarian at Butler, and the Empirical Reasoning Lab (Barnard). The course is likely
to involve a significant time commitment.*

Bombay/Mumbai's built form reflects the social and spatial uneven-ness of (colonial) capital,
while its distinctive urbanity is the product of the everyday lives and aspirations of those who
inhabit it.

When was Bombay?
Bombay's transformation from an early-modern port city to British India's commercial and
manufacturing hub (and now, megacity) is linked with global economic forces: the city
experienced meteoric rise in the aftermath of the American Civil War due to a booming cotton
economy. New technologies for rationalizing production and accelerating the circulation of
Bombay cotton soon followed. Meanwhile, the plague of 1897 provided planners and government
officials with an alibi for mass demolitions, and enabled them to undertake extensive experiments
in urban governance and industrial housing. Bombay's famed cosmopolitanism is thus a vestige
of social practices and cultural experiences produced by the contradictory forces of colonial
capital: spatial regulation, together with social emancipation.

How do we approach Bombay/Mumbai in this seminar?
Scholarship on Bombay either focuses on the colonial city, or on Mumbai's status as an icon of
postcolonial urbanity. While the former seeks to disaggregate local practice and community
formation from the authoritarianism of colonial policy, the latter focuses on a post-1993 Bombay
scarred by vicious anti-Muslim violence, and neoliberal strategies of re-territorialization. Instead,
this seminar asks how we might bring questions of built form, capital flows, and social life and
inhabitation to bear on a history of the city across the colonial/postcolonial divide. By so doing,
we will attempt to think about Bombay comparatively together with cities of the global South,
while asking, simultaneously, about how Bombay's distinctive urbanity might force us to alter
our approaches to the city; approaches that are largely drawn from modular Euro-American
paradigms for understanding urbanization as coeval with modernity, as well as industrialization.
We do so in this seminar by focusing on people and practices—subaltern urbanity (and on those
whose labor produced the modern city), as well as spatial orders—the informal or unintended
city—to ask the question, "what makes and unmakes a city?"

Seeing the City

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In order to answer some of these questions, this course includes a spatial mapping component.
You will learn to use and be comfortable with ways of visibilizing the city, and get comfortable
with basic (digital) mapping tools and techniques. In order to do so, you will work in small
groups of three to four students throughout the course. You will work through basic tutorials that
will enable you to complete a set of spatial mapping exercises in a collaborative context, and then
complete a final project for the course that will be developed in consultation with myself nd
Rachel.

About the Structure and Expectations of the Course
1) The course will follow a broad chronology by tracing the effect of planning, policy,
colonialism, and labor-capital relations in shaping Bombay. The course is essentially divided into
a study of the colonial and postcolonial city, with relevant themes such as planning, the
organization of social difference, housing and the slum, and political violence forming important
arcs of consideration.

2) A large number of essays, visuals, and other materials for the course are available online, and
will be noted as such with the provision of a weblink. Otherwise, essays and book extracts are
PDF'ed and posted on Courseworks (and marked on the syllabus with an asterisk ("*")). Books
are on order at Book Culture.

3) The readings for each week in your syllabus are organized <u>not</u> alphabetically, but in the order
in which I think you should read them

4) We will be viewing one film in class. Our sessions will extend beyond 8PM on that day, most
probably until 8:30 or 8:45 PM. <u>Screening occurs Week 8</u>. If you are unable to stay beyond class
time due to other commitments, you will be expected to get to Barnard Media to watch the film
on your own time.

<u>What I Expect From You</u>
This course has no pre-requisites, though previous exposure to South Asia, urban studies, global
history and/or social theory would be a great plus. Healthy curiosity and a willingness to explore
abstract ideas and concepts will do just as well.

You will read approximately a book a week, or about 250 pages/week.

*You are allowed one absence during the semester. Further absences will result in the loss of a
half grade per missed session.*

I reserve the right to assign relevant extracts and short pieces of interest to you, which may not be
part of the original syllabus!

<u>Grading and Course Evaluation</u>
The grading system is as follows:

Class participation: 30%

Spatial mapping exercises (2) and group work: 30%

Final paper or project: 40%

Books on Order at Book Culture
Katherine Boo, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*
Henri Lefebvre, *The Production of Space*
Gyan Prakash, *Mumbai Fables*

RESOURCES
Films for the Seminar
Satya
Majlis, *I Live in Behrampada*
Anand Patwardhan, *Bombay: Hamara Shahar*
Surabhi Sharma, *Jari-Mari* (informalization)
Paromita Vora, *Q2P* (gender, infrastructure)

Literature
Ravan and Eddie
Shantaram
Maximum City
Bombay Meri Jaan
Last Man in Tower

Websites
1) SARAI

2) UDRI (Urban Development Research Institute:
http://www.udri.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=22&Itemid=6

3) Tax Mahal Foxtrot:
http://www.tajmahalfoxtrot.com/

4) URBZ:
http://urbz.net/

5) Pad.ma - short for Public Access Digital Media Archive - is an online archive of densely text-annotated video material, primarily footage and not finished films. The entire collection is searchable and viewable online, and is free to download for non-commercial use.
pad.ma

6) Mumbai photos:
http://www.oldindianphotos.in/search/label/Bombay

7) Bombaywalla:
http://bombaywalla.org/

8) Brief histories of cities: Bombay and Delhi, in *The Guardian*:

http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/mar/30/story-cities-11-reclamation-mumbai-bombay-megacity-population-density-flood-risk

http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/apr/20/story-cities-23-delhi-india-modernist-fantasy

9) Mumbai Mapping:
http://www.citylab.com/housing/2016/03/the-much-needed-land-use-map-of-mumbai/474951/

Due Dates for Spatial Mapping Assignments at a Glance
(See **Appendix** at the end of the syllabus for details of each assignment, resources available to guide you, etc.)

Monday, September 12:
a) First QGIS tutorial to be completed. No submission required.
b) Submit 2 examples of good spatial mapping projects that you have found online to to the class. (Not syllabi, or courses, but completed projects). Due by 9PM Monday, on September 12.

Monday, September 26:
Geo-referencing is assignment due. Submit to class as PDFs.

Monday, October 10:
Learning to use Map-Box

Final project due last day Monday, December 12, 2016

Week One: Introduction

*Sunil Khilnani on the Indian city, *The Idea of India*

Spatial Humanities:
Todd Presner, HyperCities: A Case Study for the Future of Scholarly Publishing
file:///Users/anu/Downloads/hypercities-a-case-study-for-the-future-of-scholarly-publishing-3.pdf

Introductory QGIS Workshop by Rachel, Time and Venue: TBD

Week Two: 'City theory'
Lefebvre, Henri. *The Production of Space* [Introduction; Chapter 2, "Social Space"; Chapter 4 "From Absolute Space to Abstract Space]

Simmel, Georg, "The Metropolis and Mental Life"
http://www.altruists.org/static/files/The%20Metropolis%20and%20Mental%20Life%20(Georg%20Simmel).htm

Note: assignment due Monday, September 12, by 9PM

Week Three: Locating/Situating Bombay
Prakash, "The Colonial Gothic," in *Mumbai Fables* pp. 25-74

*Dossal, *Imperial Designs and Indian Realities* [Chapters 1-3; plus Dickinson's Survey, and "Law and Acquisition of Land, 1830-1860" from *Theatre of Conflict, City of Hope*]

Weeks Four: Colonial Urbanism
*Prashant Kidambi, *Making of an Indian Metropolis* [excerpts]

http://books.google.com/books?id=N2O76-
0buuUC&pg=PA270&lpg=PA270&dq=Prashant+Kidambi&source=bl&ots=Lh2B1e8Wsb&sig=
Eb31v5fMeb14aRfxq02nA_pe6Qg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=C-4lT-
6WMIrF0AGbyYXLCA&ved=0CB4Q6AEwADgK#v=onepage&q=Prashant%20Kidambi&f=fal
se

On the Bombay Improvement Trust, see:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nd8CpjR0lak

Note: assignment due Monday, September 26, by 9PM

Week Five: Labor and/in the City
*Housing Types, CRIT

*Vanessa Caru, "The BDD Chawls: A Case Study"

*Radha Kumar, "City Lives: Workers' Rent and Housing in Bombay 1911-1947, *Economic and Political Weekly*

*Rajnarayan Chandavarkar, *Origins of Industrial Capitalism in India* [excerpts]

Week Six: Social groups and social life
* Gail Omvedt, "Non-Brahmans and Communists in Bombay," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Volume 8, No. 16, April 21, 1973

*Nile Green, *Bombay Islam*

*Ashwini Tambe, on prostitution

Note: assignment due Monday, October 10

Week Seven: The Imagined City
Gyan Prakash, "The Cosmopolis and the Nation," *Mumbai Fables*, 117-157

Taj Mahal Foxtrot [excerpts]; Naresh Fernandes's jazz website

Week Eight: The Intended and Unintended City
Gyan Prakash, "Planners as Dreamers," in *Mumbai Fables*

*Online web essay on slum policy [ALF]

Screening: *Bombay, Hamara Shahar*

Week Nine: New Spatial Practices (April 3)
*Report, *Murder of the Mills*

*Thomas Blom Hansen, *Wages of Violence* [excerpts]

*Arjun Appadurai, Appadurai, Arjun. "Spectral Housing and Urban Cleansing: Notes on Millennial Mumbai", *Public Culture*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (Summer 2000), 627-51

Week Ten: Dharavi and M Ward
Banerjee-Guha, Swapna. "Shifting Cities: Urban Restructuring in Mumbai," *Economic and Political Weekly,* 37.2 (2002), 121-28.

Dharavi:

Patel, Sheela and Jockin Arputham. "Plans for Dharavi: Negotiating a Reconciliation between a State-driven Market Redevelopment and Residents' Aspirations," *Environment and Urbanization,* 20.1 (2008), 243-53.

Boano, Camillo, Melissa Garcia Lamarca, and William Hunter. "The Frontlines of Contested Urbanism: Mega-projects and Mega-resistances in Dharavi," *Journal of Developing Societies*, 27.3-4 (2011), 295-326.

Patel, Shirish B. "Dharavi: Makeover or Takeover?" *Economic and Political Weekly*. 45.24 (2010), 47-54.

M Ward:
Navtej Nainan, "Building Boomers and Fragmentation of Space in Mumbai," *Economic and Political Weekly*, March 24, 2008: 29-34.

Lisa Weinstein, Mumbai's Development Mafias: Globalization, Organized Crime and Land Development, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*
Volume 32, Issue 1, March 2008: 22-39.

Week Eleven: Subaltern Life

*Dilip Chitre, "Namdeo's Mumbai"
One Hundred Years, One Hundred Voices

*Paromita Vora, *Bombay Meri Jaan* [single living]

Week Twelve: Slum Urbanism
Katherine Boo, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

<u>Weeks Thirteen and Fourteen: Urban Futures</u>

TBD

APPENDIX: DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

Resources for Help with QGIS
1) Rachael Dottle, rcd2127@barnard.edu, dedicated GIS Graduate Assistant for this course

2) Eric Glass (Lehman Library)

3) Dare Ann Brawley (CSR)

ASSIGNMENT ONE
Work Due:
a) Work on your own and finish the exercises by Monday, September 12. We will discuss in class.

b) By 9PM Monday, September 12 submit 2 examples of good spatial mapping projects that you have found online. (Not syllabi, or courses, but completed projects)

Skill Development:
FAMILIARITY WITH QGIS, ADDING VECTORS AND RASTER-BASED DATA; SYMBOLIZATION

Task:
Students will download QGIS, and complete Tutorials 00 and 01

Instructions for how to download QGIS:
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Resources/DownloadingQGIS.md

Getting familiar with the QGIS interface:
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Resources/QGIS_InterfaceDescription.md

Mapping Data 00
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/01_MappingData00.md

Mapping Data 01
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/02_MappingData01.md

** In general students should look around the github page from the bootcamp especially in the resources folder.

** CSRs website also has a library of tutorials that students might find useful especially for their final projects: http://c4sr.columbia.edu/tutorials

Support:

1) Empirical Reasoning Lab:

2) In case you need to consult someone, Eric will be available to meet with you in 215 Lehman Library on Friday, September 9, 3-5 PM. Only visit Eric after trying the tutorial yourselves

ASSIGNMENT TWO
<u>**Work Due:**</u>
Monday, September 26

<u>**Skill Development:**</u>
GEOREFERENCING
*You will begin to recognize the concept of spatial inequality, as well as the relationship between the visible and the invisible, or infrastructural city.
*Students will also begin to get a hands-on understanding of Lefebvre's discussion of three ways to understand 'the urban.'

<u>**Task:**</u>
1) You will geo-reference a Portugese map of Bombay. <u>Submit as a PDF.</u>

Notice that Bombay was comprised of seven islands, which were later combined through land reclamation.

2) You will geo-reference the Bombay Map of 1855.

*You will think about the relationship between the visible, built form of the city, which Gyan Prakash takes us on walking tour of, and relate that with Dossal's discussion of the development of sewage and water networks in the city.

*You will do so by geo-referencing the Dossal map, with reference to the 1855 map. This is if her map can be digitized. Otherwise feel free to hand-draw the water infrastructure onto your 1855 map. <u>Submit as a PDF.</u>

(a hint about georeferencing the 1855 map. . . students will need to rotate the map—look at the north arrow…)

<u>**Tutorial:**</u>
Making Data 01: Georeferencing a scanned paper map
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/04_MakingData01.md

3) Digitize some features from the infrastructure map – i.e. trace certain key pieces of infrastructure and make an argument about how they relate to the development patterns on the 1855 map. You will be making a new vector dataset.

Tutorial (making a new vector dataset):

Making Data 02: Digitizing Features from a georeferenced map:
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/05_MakingData02.md

**This is like a studio assignment in architecture where you correlate the transformations of the built form of the city as a crucial moment (development of textile mills, share mania and Bombay's role in the global cotton economy) with the undercity. We are beginning to think about manifestations of spatial inequality, seen and unseen*.

Support:
A1 Empirical Reasoning Lab:

2) In case you need to consult someone else, Eric will be available to meet with you in 215 Lehman Library, September 30, between 3-5PM.

MAPS for Reference:
1) Portugese map from approx. 1635 (from National Library of France but low resolution):

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/Mombaim1635.JPG

2) Also, a British map from the 1600s:

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/BombaySalsetThornton1660s.tif

3**)** A New and Accurate Chart of Bombay Harbor 1820

https://drive.google.com/a/columbia.edu/file/d/0B05NeZrCyLZla21paFhWaUFuQms/view?usp=sharing

4) Digitized 1855 Map from Library of Congress:

https://www.loc.gov/resource/g7654m.ct004330/ (Students should download the file as a TIFF)

Another copy here:

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/Bombay1855.tif

ASSIGNMENT THREE
Work Due:
Monday, October 10

Skill Development:
Map-Box

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Annotation and Online Mapping

Task:
You will create an ANNOTATED MAP of important plague related events that you can click to get access to details such as photos, text, etc.

1) You will use the map of Bombay just after the Plague of 1896.
2) You will create a new data layer specific to your group, which will decide which <u>nine data points</u> you wish to include on your map. (We will discuss options in class.)
3) In order to take that layer and make it interactive, and live online you will learn use an online mapping platform called Map-Box which allows you to create information for points

Tutorial:
Creating a Basic Interactive Web Map: https://github.com/mym2107/CSR-Conflict-Urbanism-Aleppo/tree/master/Tutorials/Tutorial04

Refer also to MapBox's extensive online help and tutorials: https://www.mapbox.com/help/

Support:
1) Empirical Reasoning Lab:

2) Dare will lead tutorial October 4 and 5: 3-5PM. Venue TBA

MAPS for Reference:
1) English map from 1891 – shows reclamations since 1816 (Low Res):

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/Bombay1891.jpg

2) English map from 1873 (low res and has British Library Watermark):

https://drive.google.com/a/columbia.edu/file/d/0B05NeZrCyLZlQ29GU1M3M2x5bzQ/view?usp=sharing

3) English map from 1885:

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/Bombay1885.jpg

3) Atlas page from 1906

http://www.columbia.edu/acis/eds/gis/images/Bombayt1906.tif

4) 1907 Bombay map from Digital South Asia Library digitized
http://dsal.uchicago.edu/maps/gazetteer/index.html

See maps titled: *"City of Bombay"and "Island of Bombay" (Students should directly download these high resolution image files)*.

The Gazetteer that this map was published in also has an extensive description of the city itself and the general patterns of development, might be a good resource for students?.
http://dsal.uchicago.edu/reference/gazetteer/pager.html?volume=8&objectid=DS405.1.I34_V08_404.gif

ASSIGNMENT FOUR: In process…
SKILL:
Using HTML platform created by the Center for Spatial Research (Columbia) to present your final projects

Support:
1) Empirical Reasoning Lab:
Mariam Rimawi: mzr2112@barnard.edu
Fatimazohra Koli: fak2116@barnard.edu

2) Dare Brawley