

Council for International Teaching and Research

GLOBAL SCHOLARS



2013-14 Princeton Global Scholar Christophe Jaffrelot

Christophe Jaffrelot, one of the world's leading experts on India and Pakistan, is expanding the horizons of Princeton's Program in South Asian Studies. His groundbreaking research — from theories of nationalism and democracy to the mobilization of lower castes and untouchables in India to ethnic conflicts in Pakistan — opens exciting new avenues for Princeton students exploring the political, economic, social, and religious institutions of South Asia.

Jaffrelot's appointment brings a wealth of academic connections in Europe and South Asia, creating opportunities for Princeton scholars to study and collaborate with their counterparts at educational institutions from London to Lucknow. His appointment at Princeton raises the bar for regional studies programs by establishing a truly global model for scholarly exchange.

A native of France, Jaffrelot is based in Paris at the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales (CERI), a major European center for political science research, where he teaches South Asian history and politics. He is also research director at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and chair of the Asia Group at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and is frequently tapped for policy-level advice on developments in South Asia.

Across the Channel, Jaffrelot is a professor of Indian politics and sociology at King's College, London. Farther afield, his academic partnerships span the Indian subcontinent, from Delhi's Centre for the Studies of Developing Societies in the north to Bangalore's Janagraaha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy in the south. He has taught and mentored a generation of scholars who are now making their own impact on contemporary Indian political analysis.

As a Global Scholar, Jaffrelot brings not only his knowledge and experience of South Asia to the classroom, but also his gift for inspiring and nurturing young scholars. At Princeton, he will co-teach courses, such as "Muslim Politics in India, Iran, Pakistan, and Indonesia," with Princeton faculty members. He will also organize a conference that brings scholars from Europe and India to campus, and lead interdisciplinary graduate workshops that examine contemporary social issues in India from historical, ethnographic, political, and religious perspectives.

Jaffrelot's appointment, made possible by a generous gift from C.H. Tung, will lead to previously unimagined collaborations between Princeton and institutions in Europe and India, and position the University to develop a "Princeton model" for the study of South Asia that emphasizes global issues and transcends national boundaries.