

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
Department of Religious Studies

Religious Studies 203 L01

Winter 2011

Introduction to Eastern Religions

MWF 11:00 – 11:50

SA 106

Instructor

Dr. Tinu Ruparell

Office

SS1320

Office Hours

M 2:30-3:30pm and by appointment

Telephone

403-220-7069 or 403-220-5886 (main office)

Email

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Teaching Assistants:

Sam Borsman

tamtamkyopet@hotmail.com

Required Texts:

Willard Oxtoby, ed. *World Religions Eastern* (Oxford: OUP, 2001)

Other readings may be required from time to time and will be made available on the Blackboard site for this course.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the major religious traditions of India, China and Japan. We will be concerned with the origins and developments of these traditions, focusing on the central beliefs, practices, scriptures, and concepts which inform their respective worldviews. While we will raise certain contemporary issues and/or problems, the thrust of our discussions will centre around the 'classical' formulations of Hinduism and Buddhism as they appear in India, China and Japan.

Core Competencies:

Active participants in this course will gain an understanding of the fundamental terms, religious figures, concepts, beliefs and practices of the religious traditions considered. They will further their skills in the organisation and written communication of the knowledge they gain, and be encouraged to critically reflect on these traditions and their academic study.

Course Requirements

There will be three assessments for this course:

Assessments	Date	Weight /100%
Assessment 1 Format TBA in class	7 Feb 2011	25%
Assessment 2 Format TBA in class	18 Mar 2011	30%
Final Exam	Registrar Scheduled	45%

Grading:

A numerical grade will be given for each course requirement with a letter grade awarded as the cumulative grade for the course. Below is the table approved by the Dept of Religious Studies:

A+ 96 –100%	A 90-95%	A- 85-89%
B+ 80-84%	B 75-79%	B- 70-74%
C+ 65-69%	C 60-64%	C- 55-59%
D+ 53-54%	D 50-52%	F < 50%

NB. POLICY WITH REGARDING MISSED ASSESSMENTS

Test dates are firm. Without acceptable documentation (i.e. medical certificate, police report, bereavement notice, confirmation of religious observance, or court summons) or without PRIOR arrangement with the instructor, missed assessments will be awarded an 'F'.

This policy is intended to encourage diligence and integrity among students as well as to uphold principles of fairness and equality with respect to other students in the class. Excuses other than those listed above will receive little attention.

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available in the first week of class

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in

the University Calendar. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.

Recording of lectures: Recording any part of any lectures in any form must first approved be by the instructor in writing and is for individual private study only. See current Calendar, Tape recording of Lectures.

Academic Accommodation: If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor two weeks before the scheduled date.

Withdrawing from courses:

Please note the information regarding withdrawals and fee refunds in the Academic Schedule of the current University Calendar.

Gnosis:

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.