

University of Calgary Faculty of Humanities
Department of Religious Studies

04/08/26

Introduction to Hinduism
Religious Studies 303 L01



Fall 2004

Time: MWF 13:00 – 13:50
Instructor: Dr. Tamar Reich
Office location: SS 1328
Office hours: MF 11:00 -11:50; W 12:00 – 12:50
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Course Description

The course is an historical introduction to the varied complex of traditions that have come rather recently under the umbrella term “Hinduism.” The course covers developments from the Vedic period to the modern period.

Required Texts

- 1) J. L. Brockington, *The Sacred Thread: Hinduism in its Continuity and Diversity*, Edinburgh: The University of Edinburgh Press, 1981.
- 2) Ainslie T. Embree (ed.), *The Hindu Tradition*, New York: Vintage Books, 1972.

Course Organization and Requirements

The course will be organized on a lecture/discussion basis, following the rough outline for topics and related readings. The lectures will introduce the major developments in the history of Hinduism. Considerable time will be devoted in class to discussion of readings taken from primary sources. Each student will be required to craft a paper topic and bibliography, and to write a paper, a mid-term examination and a registrar-scheduled final examination.

Purpose of the Course

This course aims to reach greater depth and a more sophisticated level of understanding than was possible in Religious Studies 203. The intent is to make students aware of the variety of world views and practices represented within Hinduism. Students will be encouraged to think critically about these practices and world views, and also to reflect on the implications of using terms such as “Hinduism.” Both the readings and the writing assignments are designed to encourage such critical reflection, and to give students practice in doing research in both the texts and the history of Hinduism

Grading

The course requirements will be weighted as follows:

Midterm Test (October 25)	30%
Paper Topic and Bibliography (due November 17)	10%
Paper (due December 8)	30%
Final Examination (Registrar– scheduled, date will be announced)	30%

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

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

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Office Hours

My office is located in the Social Sciences building, room 1328. Office hours are Monday and Friday 11:00 -11:50; Wednesday 12:00 – 12:50. Feel free to approach me after class, and to come to my office during office hours to discuss any issues that may arise. If you can not make it to my office hours, you are also welcome to contact me via email or telephone.

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 Honesty:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity; see relevant pages in the current University Calendar.

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 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.

Safewalk Program :

"You don't have to walk alone...." Call 220-5333 and a member of the Safewalk Team will walk you to your car, the LRT, or any destination on campus. Safewalk is available to all students, staff and faculty any time of the day or night. Look for the Campus Security Help Phones located throughout the University. Please don't hesitate to call!

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>.

SCHEDULE



Date	Topic	Brockington	Embree
<i>Week One</i>			
September 8	Introduction		
September 10	Prehistory	pp. 1 – 28	
<i>Week Two</i>			
September 13	Harappa Civilization		
September 15	The Early Vedic Period	pp. 3 - 23	
September 17	Vedic Society	pp. 33 – 47	
<i>Week Three</i>			
September 20	Impersonal Trends	pp. 29 – 50	
September 22	Impersonal Trends	pp. 23-31	
September 24	Impersonal Trends	pp. 48 – 65	
<i>Week Four</i>			
September 27	Theistic Trends	pp. 51 – 73	
September 29	Theistic Trends	pp. 101-132	
October 1	Theistic Trends	pp. 136 – 150	
<i>Week Five</i>			
October 4	Unorthodox Movements	pp. 74 – 91	
October 6	Unorthodox Movements	pp. 132-135	
October 8			
<i>Week Six</i>			
October 11	Thanksgiving		
October 13	Orthodox Synthesis	pp. 92 – 94	
October 15	Orthodox Synthesis	pp. 70 - 100	
<i>Week Seven</i>			
October 18	Orthodox synthesis	pp. 94 - 112	
October 20	Orthodox Synthesis	pp. 180 - 207	
October 22	Orthodox Synthesis	<i>Time to start considering paper topic!!!</i>	
<i>Week Eight</i>			
October 25	Midterm		
October 27	Sectarian Developments	pp. 113 – 129	
October 29	Sectarian Developments		

Week Nine

November 1	Bhakti in the South	pp. 130 – 150
November 3	Bhakti in the South	pp. 228 – 243
November 5	Bhakti in the South	pp. 249 – 250

Week Ten

November 8	Discussion of questions regarding paper	
November 10	Bhakti in the North	pp. 151 – 172
November 12	Reading “Week”	

Week Eleven

November 15	Bhakti in the North	pp. 247 –270
November 17	Discussion of papers	<i>Paper topic and bibliography due!!!</i>
November 19	Individual meetings to discuss papers	

Week Twelve

November 22	Reform and Revival	pp. 173 – 178
November 24	Reform and Revival	pp. 274 - 298
November 26	Reform and Revival	pp. 178 - 189

Week Thirteen

November 29	Reform and Revival	pp. 299 - 324
December 1	Reform and Revival	pp. 325 - 348
December 3	Tradition Triumphant	pp. 190 – 209

Week Fourteen

December 6	Tradition Triumphant	pp. 208 – 223
December 8	Conclusion	<i>Due date for papers!!!</i>

Date of registrar scheduled exam will be announced.

