

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2015

Course: RELS 303 L01, “Introduction to Hinduism”
Time MWF 1-1:50
Instructor Elizabeth Rohlman
Office Hours Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 and by appointment
Office SS 550
E-mail elizabeth.rohlman@ucalgary.ca
Telephone 403-220-3287

Required Texts:

Olson, Carl. *The Many Colors of Hinduism: A Thematic-Historical Introduction*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-8135-4068-9

Olson, Carl, editor. *Hindu Primary Sources: A Sectarian Reader*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-8135-4070-2

Johnson, W. J., translator. *The Bhagavad Gita*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994. ISBN: 0-19-283581-5

Optional Text(s): None

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Hindu tradition(s): that is, religious knowledge that has been passed down *parampara*, “from one to another,” over the centuries. We will embark on a thematic-historical survey of Hindu traditions from the ancient religion of the Vedas through devotional movements of the 19th century. Our introduction to Hindu traditions will be through the lens of the written literature of Hinduism in English translation, from Vedic hymns to epic narrative to devotional poetry. Focusing on this literature, we will consider the ways in which Hindus from a variety of historical and regional contexts have expressed and preserved their traditions in literature.

Online elements for this course:

On occasion, additional required readings will be made available on D2L.

Materials relating to in-class activities will also be available on D2L. However, grades will not be posted online.

Core Competencies:

By the end of the course, students will have a firm understanding of the historical and doctrinal development of classical Hindu traditions. Students will also be competent in the critical interpretation of primary source texts, with special attention to religious and historical concerns.

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
On Going	Participation	10%	No
February 25	Exam 1	40%**	No*
April 10	Exam 2	10%**	No*
April 17	Research Paper	40%	No*

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam in this course.

*Students must write all assignments to get a passing grade in this class. A grade of “zero” on any assignment will result in a final grade of “F.”

**Students may choose to count their highest exam grade as 40% of their final grade.

Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, standardized within the Department of Classics and Religion:

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.

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:

Make-up exams and deadline extensions will be given only in cases of documented emergency. Students must contact the instructor no later than 24 hours after the missed exam to make arrangements.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:**Electronic Device Policy:**

Electronic devices for the purpose of note-taking are allowed.

Lectures may not be recorded without written permission of the instructor.

Electronic entertainment, including but not limited to wearing ear-buds, texting, or electronic socializing of any kind, is not allowed in class.

Syllabus:

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

References and Bibliography:

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html. Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.) If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, librarian staff or the Chicago manual of style.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than **fourteen (14) days** after the start of the course.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

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>.

Classics Student Society

Classics Student Society is the Greek and Roman Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: classsoc@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://grst.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/classics-students-society>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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 at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

- 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.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.