



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION
COURSE OUTLINE
Fall 2020**

Course Name and Number: RELS 398.01: Religion and the Environment

Instructor: Chris Framarin (he/him)

Email: chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca

Email Policy: All course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

Office Hours: Fridays 1:00 – 2:00 and by appointment (on Zoom – link posted to D2L)

Course Delivery Information: This course is entirely online. Lectures for this course are asynchronous. They will be pre-recorded and posted to D2L. One discussion session and four review sessions will take place synchronously on Zoom during the scheduled class time (TR 12:30 – 1:45) on the following dates:

Thursday, Sept. 17

Tuesday, Sept. 29

Tuesday, Oct. 20

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Tuesday, Dec. 8

Discussion and review sessions will not be recorded.

Quizzes will take place during the scheduled class time (TR 12:30 – 1:45) on the following dates:

Thursday, Oct. 1

Thursday, Oct. 22

Thursday, Nov. 19

(The final quiz will be registrar-scheduled.)

Course Calendar Statement:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html>

Course description: This course considers issues in environmental ethics and animal ethics in the contexts of a variety of Hindu religious texts and traditions.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Successful students will learn about the beliefs and practices within certain Hindu religious traditions as they relate to the environment and animals.

Successful students will extract arguments from published papers.

Successful students will evaluate arguments from published papers.

Successful students will write original arguments and/or objections to arguments extracted from published papers.

Successful students will revise written work based on peer feedback.

Successful students will compare and/or synthesize the views of different traditions.

Required texts:

Nelson, Lance (ed.). 1998. *Purifying the Earthly Body of God* (Albany: SUNY Press)

Journal articles and book chapters posted to D2L

Course Evaluations:

First Quiz (Thursday, October 1)	25%
Second Quiz (Thursday, October 22)	25%
Third Quiz (Thursday, November 19)	25%
Fourth Quiz (Registrar Scheduled Exam)	25%

Quizzes will occur during the scheduled class time (12:30 – 1:45). Each quiz will consist of one essay question. There will be a review session for each quiz on the last class day before the quiz. Review sessions will not be recorded. Essays should be between three and five pages. Quizzes will be graded on organization, clarity, accuracy, and originality. Quizzes will be submitted through D2L. If students do not take a quiz, they must contact the instructor in writing within 24 hours. Assignments submitted after the deadline will have two points deducted per day.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Conduct:

Students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Course Evaluations and Student Feedback:

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor

Academic Misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>
<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>
Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website
at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Zoom

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may

be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

Other Important Information

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk