

University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts, Department of Classics & Religion

RELS 683.27: Hindu Myth and Ritual
Winter 2017

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:15-3:30 and by appointment

Required Textbooks: To be determined

Course Description:

This is a research-intensive course surveying secondary scholarship on the mythic literature of the Hindu *puranas* and the devotional practices and regional practices that have grown out of puranic literature.

Course Goals:

- To develop advanced research skills.
- To gain a mastery of seminal scholarship on the *puranas*, *mahatmyas*, and associated regional literatures.
- To develop and practice the writing skills necessary to create annotated bibliographies and reviews of scholarly literature.

Course Requirements:

1. *Participation:*

The student should plan on reading approximately one book per week. The books to be read each week will be selected in consultation with the instructor, and may come from the students' work on the annotated bibliography projects. The instructor and student will meet a minimum of once every other week to discuss the readings.

2. *Annotated Bibliographies:*

The student will conduct an exhaustive search for literature related to these topics utilizing library databases. Based on these searches and in consultation with the instructor, the student will create two annotated bibliographies of approximately 20-30 sources each. Deadlines will be determined in consultation with the student.

3. *Bibliographic Essay:*

The final paper for this course will be a 20-25 page bibliographic essay based on the annotated bibliographies the student has produced throughout the term. This essay should present the students' analysis and assessment of the state of scholarship in the field. Deadline will be determined in consultation with the student.

Grading:

- 1. Annotated Bibliographies: 40% (20% each)
- 2. Bibliographic Essay: 50%
- 3. Participation: 10%

A final letter grade will be assigned based on the following scale:

A+	4.0	Outstanding
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.7	Very good performance
B+	3.3	Good performance

B	3.0	Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program.
B-	2.7	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing grade.
C+	2.3	All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.
C	2.0	
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	
F	0.0	

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

The student must receive passing marks on all written assignments in order to pass the course.

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 or librarian staff.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; 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/. 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.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

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.

Freedom of Information and Privacy

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should

identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

Graduate Student Association Ombudsperson

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.

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.