



SAST 531 Lec 01
Issues in South Asia
Winter 2022
Online

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Chris Framarin

Email: chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca (best way to contact me)

Office: 1236 SS

Office Hours: Monday 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Office Phone: 403-220-5532 (rarely in my office on campus this year)

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:

I will reply to emails within 24 hours, outside of weekends and holidays.

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

This course will be synchronous online. Meetings will be set between student and instructor bi-weekly.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Calgary resides upon the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. The University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River; the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is “Moh'kins'tsis”, which we now call the City of Calgary.

ii' taa'poh'to'p, the Blackfoot name of the University of Calgary's Indigenous Strategy, was bestowed and transferred in ceremony by Kainai Elder Andy Black Water on June 21, 2017. The name signifies a place to rejuvenate and re-energize while on a journey. Traditionally, these places are recognized as safe, caring, restful – and offer renewed energy for an impending journey. In a traditional naming ceremony, transitioning into the new name is a journey of transformation towards self-actualization.

CALENDAR STATEMENT/COURSE DESCRIPTION

An Interdisciplinary, inquiry-based course in which students will pursue a supervised, independent research project on a topic from social, philosophical, economic, political and/or international issues within South Asia and analysis of the basis for interactions among South Asian countries and across the Pacific will be presented in-depth.

This iteration of the course will focus on Buddhist texts and traditions and the environment.

PREREQUISITE(S)

Consent of the Program Co-ordinator and one of South Asian Studies 203, 303, 315 or 415.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

Successful students will extract arguments from academic papers.

Successful students will evaluate arguments from academic papers.

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

Successful students will revise written work based on instructor feedback and discussion.

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

LEARNING RESOURCES

Tucker and Williams. 1998. *Buddhism and Ecology* (Cambridge, U.K.: Center for the Study of World Religions)

Journal articles and book chapters posted to D2L.

CLASS SCHEDULE

First Day of Class: Monday, Jan. 10

Term Break – NO CLASSES: Sunday, Feb. 20 – Saturday, Feb. 26

Last Day of Class: Tuesday, April 12

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| First Paper (Due Date to be determined) | 30% |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|------------------------------------------|-----|
| Second Paper (Due Date to be determined) | 30% |
|------------------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Third Paper (Due Date to be determined) | 40% |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|

Papers will be five pages. The second and third papers can be combined as one 10 page paper.

Papers will be submitted by email. Papers submitted after the deadline will have two points deducted per day.

MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments/assessments must be completed and turned in on their due date. Students affected by COVID (infection, quarantine, care for another person, etc.) can make alternative arrangements as appropriate. Please discuss this with me directly.

EXAMS:

This course has no exams.

GRADING:

This course uses a combination of letter and number grades, according to the chart below. The university's Undergraduate Grading System is available here:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

In most cases where the final letter grade for the course is less than 1% from the next higher grade, the instructor will round-up. This course does not use a bell curve – whatever mark you get is it.

| Percentage | Letter | Usually Graded | Point | Description |
|------------|--------|----------------|-------|-------------|
|------------|--------|----------------|-------|-------------|

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|-----|---------------------------|
| 96 + % | A+ | 97 | 4.0 | Outstanding |
| 90 – 95.9 % | A | 92 | 4.0 | Excellent |
| 85 – 89.9 % | A– | 87 | 3.7 | Approaching Excellent |
| 80 – 84.9 % | B+ | 82 | 3.3 | Exceeding Good |
| 75 – 79.9 % | B | 77 | 3.0 | Good |
| 70 – 74.9 % | B– | 72 | 2.7 | Approaching Good |
| 65 – 69.9 % | C+ | 67 | 2.3 | Exceeding Satisfactory |
| 60 – 64.9 % | C | 62 | 2.0 | Satisfactory |
| 55 – 59.9 % | C– | 57 | 1.7 | Approaching Satisfactory |
| 53 – 54.9 % | D+ | 54 | 1.3 | Marginal Pass |
| 50 – 52.9 % | D | 52 | 1.0 | Minimal Pass |
| 0 – 49.9 % | F | 0 | 0 | Did Not Meet Requirements |

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Student Conduct

A Student Code of Conduct Agreement, available on D2L, is part of this course. It is a required component of the class (see “Engagement”). Students are expected to attend class regularly. They must come prepared and ready to work.

Responsibility for fulfilling the requirements for all aspects of the course resides with the student. The professor will not give out lecture notes, repeat information, nor provide replacement copies of material provided during regular class meetings.

Students must adhere to the Principles of Conduct, both Academic and Non-Academic, as outlined in the University of Calgary Calendar: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

Course Technology

This course is offered as an online/remote version only. Students are responsible for their own technological equipment (hardware, software, and connectivity) and must feel confident using a variety of programs and portals. The instructor does not provide technical support. If you are experiencing any technical issues, you must go through ucalgary.ca/it. All work must be completed using the online technologies designated by the instructor. Failure to complete any assignments by the deadline and according to the instructions due to technological error on the

student's part is not sufficient grounds for an extension or re-take, and may result in a grade of F (0).

Students are eligible for an Office 365 subscription with their U of C IT account/email with which they may install and activate the Microsoft Office program suite on up to 5 devices. They may download the Microsoft Office installation file by signing into their email online at <https://office365.ucalgary.ca> and selecting "Install Office Apps" from their main Office 365 portal page. Once the Microsoft Office suite is installed, they may activate the license by signing in with their @ucalgary.ca email.

A D2L portal has been set up for this course that allows for group correspondence, course announcements, class materials, assignment submissions and grading, and other forms of communication. Students are expected to check D2L at least once a week for any updates. D2L only uses @ucalgary email addresses.

Other platforms, portals, and programs may be required to complete course work. Students must have the capability to stream video.

Students must be able to edit files in Google Docs and Google Slides.

During synchronous meetings, we encourage students to turn on their video interface, and avoid distractions (including technologies and screens that are not relevant to the course) in order to facilitate group connections. At the same time, we are aware that there are circumstances that do not always make this possible. We trust students to make the right decision for themselves in keeping with the Braver Space Guidelines.

Student-Instructor Communication

Appropriate communication procedures are described in detail in the Student Code of Conduct Agreement. The instructor's preferred means of communication is first by scheduled office hours, then by a pre-arranged meeting time (only if the professor's office hours conflict with another course), and then by email.

The instructor will endeavor to respond to emails within three business days of receiving the message. *If the student emails a question that is fully addressed by the syllabus, Student Code of Conduct, or posted on D2L, the instructor will not reply.* If you don't receive a response within three business days, you can likely find the answer yourself. The instructor may respond to your email query with the request that you meet to discuss. Please note, that the university's regular business hours are 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday and excludes recognized holidays. See the Academic Schedule for more details:
ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Students should arrive on time, prepared for class. See "Participation" under "Assessment Components and Schedule" above.

CONDUCT

Students and academic staff are expected to demonstrate behavior in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students 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>

USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS

The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at:

https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf?utm_source=policies&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=redirect

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. A midterm evaluation may also be included to provide students an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

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.

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