

Religion 2005 A
Introduction to Hinduism
Winter 2009

Professor: Richard Mann
Office: Paterson Hall 2A51
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10-11:30 AM, Friday 1-2 PM
Office Phone: 613-520-2600 ext. 2504
Office e-mail: richard_mann@carleton.ca
Lecture Times: 8:35-9:55 am, Tuesday and Thursday

Course Description:

A historical survey of Hinduism from the Vedas to contemporary thought.

Required Texts:

Hillary Rodrigues, *Introducing Hinduism*, New York: Routledge, 2006.

W. J. Johnson (translator), *The Bhagavad Gita*, Oxford University Press, World's Classics.

Course Package

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1. Midterm exam – (in class) 30% (Feb. 24)
2. Reading quizzes – (in class) 10% (2X5%) (1st quiz: Jan. 29, 2nd quiz: March 19)
3. A written assignment 20% (due March 26)
4. Final exam – scheduled during the final examination period 40%

General Notes on Evaluation:

1. You will receive a guideline for the written assignment. Your written assignment must follow these guidelines and your grade will be based on your adherence to that criteria.
2. Please see “Regulations Common to all Humanities Courses” attached to the syllabus for policy on plagiarism, grading systems, requests for academic accommodation and petitions to defer.
3. Late assignments may not be graded. Those that are graded will receive a 5% mark deduction per day late.
4. Missed tests, quizzes, exams and assignments can only be made up if the student supplies adequate written documentation (i.e., a doctor's note, an obituary) for the absence.

Class and Reading Schedule:

Week 1: Jan. 05-11

Lecture Topics: course introduction, the Indus Valley

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Introduction

Week 2: Jan. 12-18

Lecture Topics: The Vedas and Vedic Ritual

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 1 (Vedic Religion)

2. *Rig Veda* 10.90, 10.129, 10.130, 10.190 (CP)

3. "Seven Prevalent Misconceptions about India's Caste System" in *Everyday Life in South Asia* (CP)

Week 3: Jan. 19-25

Lecture Topics: The Upanishads

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 2 (Karma and cosmology)

2. Select readings from the Upanishads (*Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad*, chapter 2, section 4-5; *Chāndogya Upaniṣad*, chapter 1, section 1, chapter 3, section 12-14, chapter 6, section 1-16, *Kena Upaniṣad*, all chapters) (CP)

Week 4: Jan. 26 - Feb. 1 **Quiz 1 on Jan. 29**

Lecture Topics: Aspects of Hindu Philosophy: Monism, Dualism and Theism

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 5 (The Sanskrit Language), Chapter 6 (Indian Philosophical Schools) and Chapter 12 (Vedanta)

Week 5: Feb. 2-8

Lecture Topics: Dharma and Ashrama

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 3 (Hindu social organization and values) and Chapter 4 (Dharma and the individual)

2. Selections from *Manu's Code of Law* (CP)

Week 6: Feb. 9-15

Lecture Topics: The *Mahabharata* and the *Bhagavad Gita*

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 7 (The Epics) and Chapter 8 (The *Bhagavad Gita* and the rise of *bhakti*)

2. *The Bhagavad Gita*

Week 7: Feb. 16-22 – Reading Week

Week 8: Feb. 23 - Mar. 1 **Midterm Exam, Feb. 24**

Lecture Topics: The *Ramayana*

Readings: 1. Rāma's story as given in the *Mahābhārata* (CP)

Week 9: Mar. 2-8

Lecture Topics: Bhakti

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 9 (Major Hindu theistic sects) and Chapter 10 (Hindu deities and Puranic mythology)

2. Selected readings from the *Bhagavata Purana* (CP)

Week 10: Mar. 9-15

Lecture Topics: Shiva and Temples

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 11 (Hindu art and worship rituals)
2. Selected readings from Shaivite Puranas (the destruction of the triple city of the demons, and Shiva destroys Kama) (CP)

Week 11: Mar. 16-22 **Quiz 2 on March 19**

Lecture Topics: Devi and Ritual

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 13 (Tantra)
2. Selected readings from Shakta Puranas (the *Devimahatmya* listed as *Encountering the Goddess* in your course pack) (CP)
3. "The Hindu Gods in a South Indian Village" in *Everyday Life in South Asia* (CP)

Week 12: Mar. 23-29 **Written Assignment Due: March 26**

Lecture Topics: Swami Vivekananda and M. K. Gandhi

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 14 (Reform and revitalization)
2. Selected readings from Swami Vivekananda and M. K. Gandhi (CP)

Week 13: Mar. 30- Apr. 3

Lecture Topics: Contemporary Political Hinduism

Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 16 (Hinduism and the West)
2. "Ayodhya, the Babri Masjid, and the Ramjanmabhumi Dispute" in *Hindu Nationalism* (CP)

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of “F” for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B+ = 77-79 (9)	C+ = 67-69 (6)
A = 85-89 (11)	B = 73-76 (8)	C = 63-66 (5)
A - = 80-84 (10)	B - = 70-72 (7)	C - = 60-62 (4)
D+ = 57-59 (3)	D = 53-56 (2)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. No academic credit
WDN	Withdrawn from the course
ABS	Absent from the final examination
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	“Failed, no Deferral” – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Fall term courses is November 7, 2008. The last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (full year) and Winter term courses is March 6, 2009.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

1. For Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations are required to contact a co-ordinator at the Paul Menton Centre (ext. 6608) to complete the necessary *letters of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first in-class or CUTV test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangements. Deadlines for submitting forms for formally scheduled exam accommodation: November 7 for December examinations and March 6, 2009 for April examinations.

2. For Religious Obligations

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton’s Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance. (613-520-5622)

3. For Pregnancy:

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services (613-520-5622) to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a **final** term paper or write a **final** examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply in writing within five working days to the Registrar’s Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar’s Office will be considered.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Classics and Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar’s Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608	500 Unicentre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-6632	4 th floor Library