

**Religion 3522 A  
Modern Hinduism  
Fall 2009**

**Professor:** Richard Mann  
**Office:** Paterson Hall 2A51  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 – 9:50 AM  
**Office Phone:** 520-2600 ext. 2504  
**Office e-mail:** [richard\\_mann@carleton.ca](mailto:richard_mann@carleton.ca)  
**TAs:** None

**Course Description:**

A survey of modern Hinduism from the colonial era to the present. The course will focus on three main themes: orientalism, major figures in modern Hinduism and the rise of Hindu nationalism.

**Required Texts:**

The weekly readings will all be posted to Web-CT

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

1. Written assignment on Orientalism and Indiana Jones (**25%**). Details of the assignment will be discussed in class. **Due October 20, 2009.**
2. Unit test on colonial history and colonial/post-colonial theory (**20%**). **Written in class on October 13, 2009.**
3. Unit test on major figures in Hinduism (**20%**). **Written in class on November 12, 2009.**
4. You have an option for the remaining 35% of the course. **You can do option A:**
  - A) Complete a research paper (10-15 pages). The research paper has two components: 1) the paper proposal and 2) the final paper. The paper proposal is 2 pages in length plus a bibliography. It is due on October 27. If your proposal is accepted you then submit the final paper on December 03 and you do **not** write the final exam. If you do not submit a paper proposal by Oct. 27 or I reject your proposal you must complete option B (i.e., write the final examination).

**OR you can do option B:**

- B) Write a final exam in the examination period. If you do not submit a paper proposal by Oct. 27 you must write the final exam. If your paper proposal is rejected by me you must also write the final exam.

**You cannot do both option A and B.**

## General Notes on Evaluation:

1. You will receive a guideline for the written assignments. Your assignments 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 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.
5. All of the course tests, papers and assignments must be submitted to pass the course.

## Class and Reading Schedule:

### Week 1: Sept. 10

Lecture: syllabus review and course policies

### Week 2: Sept. 15 and 17

Lecture: Pre-colonial and Colonial History of India

Read: 1. “Hinduism Ancient and Modern”, from David Smith, *Hinduism and Modernity*, posted to Web-CT  
2. “Islam and Hinduism”, from David Smith, *Hinduism and Modernity*, posted to Web-CT

### Week 3: Sept. 22 and 24

Lecture: Pre-colonial and Colonial History of India continued

Read : 1. “The European Discovery of Hinduism”, from David Smith, *Hinduism and Modernity*, posted to Web-CT

### Week 4: Sept. 29 and Oct. 01

Lecture: Orientalism and India

Read: 1. Selections from Edward Said’s *Orientalism* – posted to Web-CT  
2. Selections from Homi K. Bhabha’s “Signs Taken for Wonders” – posted to Web-CT  
3. “Hinduism and Orientalism”, from David Smith, *Hinduism and Modernity*, posted to Web-CT

### Week 5: Oct. 06 and 08

Lecture: Orientalism and India

Read: 1. Selections from Jenny Sharpe’s “Figures of Colonial Resistance” – posted to Web-CT  
2. Clive’s “Speech in the Commons on India, 1772” – posted to Web-CT  
3. Macauley’s “Minute on Education” – posted to Web-CT

**Week 6: Oct. 13 and 15**

Lecture: Orientalism and India: the case of Kālī

Read: 1. Hugh Urban's "'India's Darkest Heart' Kali in the Colonial Imagination" – posted to Web-CT

2. Cynthia Humes' "Wrestling with Kālī: South Asian and British Constructions of the Dark Goddess" – posted to Web-CT

3. "Kali East and West", from David Smith, *Hinduism and Modernity*, posted to Web-CT

View: 1. "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" – viewed in class

**Week 7: Oct. 20 and 22**

Lecture: Major figures of Modern Hinduism – The Bengal Renaissance and Ram Mohan Roy

Read: 1. Selected readings from Ram Mohan Roy – posted to Web-CT

**Week 8: Oct. 27 and 29**

Lecture: Major figures of Modern Hinduism – Dayananda Saraswati and Ramakrishna

Read: 1. Selected readings from Dayananda Saraswati – posted to Web-CT

2. Selected readings from Ramakrishna – posted to Web-CT

**Week 9: Nov. 03 and 05**

Lecture: Major figures of Modern Hinduism – Vivekananda and Gandhi

Read: 1. Selected readings from Swami Vivekananda – posted to Web-CT

2. Selected readings from M. K. Gandhi – posted to Web-CT

**Week 10: Nov. 10 and 12**

Lecture: The Rise of Hindu Nationalism – the RSS and early nationalist figures

Read: 1. "Introduction" from Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu Nationalism: A Reader* – posted to Web-CT

2. "Vinayak Damodar Savarkar" from Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu Nationalism: A Reader* – posted to Web-CT

3. "M. S. Golwalkar", from Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu Nationalism: A Reader* – posted to Web-CT

4. "The RSS and Politics", from Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu Nationalism: A Reader* – posted to Web-CT

**Week 11: Nov. 17 and 19**

Lecture: The Rise of Hindu Nationalism – India in the 1980s and 1990s

Read: 1. "Democracy, Populism, and Governance in India in the 1980s" from Thomas Blom Hansen, *The Saffron Wave* – posted to Web-CT

2. "The Saffron Wave" from Thomas Blom Hansen, *The Saffron Wave* – posted to Web-CT

**Week 12: Nov. 24 and 26**

Lecture: The Rise of Hindu Nationalism – the case of Ayodhya

Read: 1. “Ayodhya, the Babri Masjid, and the Ramjanmabhumi Dispute” from Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu Nationalism: A Reader* – posted to Web-CT

**Week 13: Dec. 01 and 03**

Lecture: Contemporary Hinduism/Hinduism in Canada

Read: 1. Radhika Sekar’s “Authenticity by Accident: Organizing, decision making and the construction of a Diasporic Hindu temple in the Nation’s Capital” from T. S. Rukmani (Ed.) *Hindu Diaspora: Global Perspectives* – posted to Web-CT

2. Jayant Lele’s “Indian Diaspora’s Long-Distance Nationalism: The Rise and Proliferation of ‘Hindutva’ in Canada” from S. Varma and R. Seshan (Eds.) *Fractured Identity: The Indian Diaspora in Canada* – posted to Web-CT

## 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	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student 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 16, 2009. The last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (full year) and Winter term courses is March 12, 2010.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you **only** require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website: [http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad\\_accom.html](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad_accom.html)

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>

### 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 <sup>th</sup> floor Library
Learning Commons 520-1125	4 <sup>th</sup> floor Library