

College of the Humanities  
Religion Program: RELI 1715 A  
South Asian Religions

**Professor:** Richard Mann  
**Office:** Paterson Hall 2A51  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:35-3:30PM  
**Office Phone:** 520-2600 ext. 2504  
**Office e-mail:** richard.mann@carleton.ca  
**Classroom:** Southam Hall 416  
**Class time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:05-2:25PM

**TA:** TBA  
**TA Office Hours:** TBA  
**TA e-mail:** TBA

**Course Description:** This course is an introductory survey of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism as they are found and practiced in South Asia. The course takes an historical approach to each tradition as does it examine important texts, practices and contemporary themes from each tradition.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To become familiar with the academic study of religion at a secular university.
2. To gain an introductory knowledge of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism as historical religious traditions and as they are currently practiced.
3. To develop research and writing skills appropriate for a first year class in a faculty of arts and social sciences.

**Required Texts:**

*World Religions: Eastern Traditions (Fourth Edition)*. Eds. Willard G. Oxtoby, Roy C. Amore and Amir Hussain. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2014. ISBN 978-0-19-900281-8 **the text is available through the Carleton University bookstore**. A series of readings will also be made available through the library's online system of reserve readings (ARES)

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

1. In class test on Hinduism (20%) **September 24**
2. In class test on Buddhism (20%) **October 15**
3. In class test on Jainism (20%) **November 10**
4. Final exam (40%) to be scheduled by Carleton and written during the Fall term final exam period.

**Please note that all of the tests and the exam are primarily composed of written answers both short answers (a few paragraphs) and longer answers (essays).**

### General Notes on Evaluation:

1. 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.
2. Missed quizzes, 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.
3. While attendance will not be taken in the course, student attendance at lectures and student success on tests and exams are closely linked. You are far more likely to pass this course if you attend all the lectures and do all of the assigned readings.

### Class Reading and Lecture Schedule:

#### Week One (Sept. 3)

**Topics:** Course Introduction and the Indus Valley and Hinduism

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 28-32

#### Week Two (Sept. 8 & 10)

**Topics:** Hinduism – The Vedas and the Upanishads (Jan. 13&15)

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 32-40

2. *Rigveda* 10.90 (posted to ARES)

3. *Rigveda* 10.129 (on page 36 of the *World Religions: Eastern Traditions* textbook)

4. Selections from the *Brihadaranyaka and Chandogya Upanishads* from *Upanishads*. Trans. Patrick Olivelle. New York: Oxford University, 1996, pages 34-36, 39-44 and 148-156 (posted to ARES)

#### Week Three (Sept. 15 & 17)

**Topics:** Classical Hinduism, and bhakti (devotional) Hinduism

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 41-66

2. Selections from the *Bhagavad Gita* (ARES)

3. “The Songs of the Saints of Medieval Hinduism” in *Sources of Indian Tradition* (ARES) *Volume 1*. Eds. Wm. Theodore de Bary et al. New York : Columbia University Press, 1988, pages 348-361.

#### Week Four (Sept. 22 & 24) **Sept. 24 first in class test (Hinduism)**

**Topics:** Hindu worship and practice, modern Hinduism

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 66-96

#### Week Five (Sept. 29 & Oct. 1)

**Topics:** Buddhism – The life of the Buddha, Buddhism – Basic Teachings

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 186-210, 215-217

2. “The Buddha Biography Told by a Narrator” and “Buddha’s Intrinsic Nature” in *Readings In Eastern Religions*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Eds. H. Coward, R. Neufeldt and E. K. Neumaier. Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2007, pages 139-151. (ARES)

3. “The Four Noble Truths” in *Sources of Indian Tradition. Volume 1*. Eds. Wm. Theodore de Bary et al. New York : Columbia University Press, 1988, pages 98-99. (ARES)

4. “The Three Jewels” in *Buddhist Scriptures*. Ed. Donald S. Lopez, jr. London: Penguin, 2004, pages 101-104. (ARES)

**Week Six** (Oct. 6 & 8)

**Topics:** Buddhism – Basic Teachings (continued), Buddhism – Mahayana Buddhism

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 217-222  
2. “Wisdom and Compassion” in *Buddhist Scriptures*. Ed. Donald S. Lopez, jr. London: Penguin, 2004, pages 350-360. (ARES)  
3. “The Heart Sutra” in *Buddhist Scriptures*. Ed. Edward Conze. London: Penguin, 1959, pages 162-164. (ARES)

**Week Seven** (Oct. 13 & 15) **October 15, second in class test (Buddhism)**

**Topics:** Buddhist worship and practice, modern Buddhism

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 241-248.

**Week Eight** (Oct. 20 & 22)

**Topics:** Jainism – Jinas and Mahavira (March 5) and Basic Teachings

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 148-162  
2. “The Kalpa Sutra, The Life of Mahavira” (web-link posted to CUlearn)  
3. Selections from Jain texts taken from *Sources of Indian Tradition. Volume 1*. Eds. Wm. Theodore de Bary et al. New York : Columbia University Press, 1988, pages 53-63. (ARES)

**Week Nine** (Oct. 27 & 29) **Fall Break no classes**

**Week Ten** (Nov. 3 & 5)

**Topics:** Jainism – Basic Teachings continued; Digambara and Svetambara Jainism; monastics (monks and nuns) and lay people (men and women)

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 162-178  
2. “Jain Stories Inspiring Renunciation” by Phyllis Granoff in *Religions of Asia in Practice*. Ed. Donald S. Lopez, Jr. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002, pages 88-93. (ARES)  
3. Selections from Jain texts from *Anthology of World Scriptures: Eastern Religions*. Ed. Robert E. Van Voorst. Belmont: Wadsworth, 2007, pages 138-141. (ARES)

**Week Eleven** (Nov. 10 & 12) **November 10, third in class test (Jainism)**

**Topics:** Sikhism – Guru Nanak, the gurus and Basic teachings

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 106-117  
2. “The Life of Guru Nanak” by Hew McLeod in *Religions of India in Practice*. Ed. Donald S. Lopez, Jr. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995, pages 449-461.  
3. Selections from the *Adi Granth* taken from *Textual Sources for the Study of Sikhism*. Trans. and ed. W. H. McLeod. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1984, pages 38-53.

**Week Twelve** (Nov. 17 & 19)

**Topics:** Sikhism – Guru Nanak, the gurus and Basic teachings continued

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 117-126  
2. “The Life of Guru Nanak” by Hew McLeod in *Religions of India in Practice*. Ed. Donald S. Lopez, Jr. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995, pages 449-461. (ARES)  
3. Selections from the *Adi Granth* taken from *Textual Sources for the Study of Sikhism*. Trans. and ed. W. H. McLeod. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1984, pages 38-53. (ARES)

**Week Thirteen** (Nov. 24 & 26)

**Topics:** Sikhism – Sikh worship, practice and sects

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 126-132

2. “Sikh Rahit Maryada” in *Textual Sources for the Study of Sikhism*. Trans. and ed. W. H. McLeod.

Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1984, pages 79-85. (ARES)

**Week Fourteen** (Dec. 1 & 3)

**Topics:** Sikhism – the modern tradition, exam review

**Readings:** 1. From *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, pgs. 132-142.

## 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 can include a final grade of “F” for the course

### GRADING SYSTEM

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

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

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
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 **DEC. 7, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2016**.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and 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. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

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 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 your Instructor receives 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 **Nov. 6, 2015** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2016** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

### PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of a final assignment or take home, in courses without a final examination, must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

### ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
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/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library