Course Description: A historical survey of Hinduism from the Vedas to the contemporary era.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course students will be able:

1. To become familiar with and identify key themes in the academic study of religion at a secular university.
2. To identify key historical developments, concepts, practices & worldviews that help to comprise the Hindu religious tradition, or traditions.
3. To develop research skills appropriate for a second year class in a faculty of arts and social sciences.
4. To develop written skills appropriate for a second year class in a faculty of arts and social sciences.

Required Texts (available through the Carleton Bookstore):


Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1. One midterm test worth 30% of the course grade, written on **February 25, in class**
2. A written assignment 30% (due **March 15**). A handout on the written assignment will be posted for the first day of class.
3. 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 Reading and Lecture Schedule:

Week One (Jan. 7)
Topics: course introduction, problems with defining ‘religion’ and ‘Hinduism’

Week Two (Jan. 12 & 14)
Topics: Defining ‘religion’ and ‘Hinduism’ continued, the Indus Valley
Readings: Rodrigues: Introduction

Week Three (Jan. 19 & 21)
Topics: The Vedas and Vedic Ritual
Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 1 (Vedic Religion)
2. *Rig Veda* 10.90, 10.129 – posted to the LMS system
3. “Seven Prevalent Misconceptions about India’s Caste System”

Week Four (Jan. 26 & 28)
Topics: The Upanishads
Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 2 (Karma and cosmology)
2. Select readings from the Upanishads (*Brhadāranyaka 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) Ares

Week Five (Feb. 2 & 4)
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 Six (Feb. 9 & 11)
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* Ares

Week Seven (Feb. 16 & 18) Reading Week – no classes (spend it reading)

Week Eight (Feb. 23 & 25)
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 Nine (March 1 & 3)
Topics: The *Ramayana*
Readings: 1. Rāma’s story as given in the *Mahābhārata* Ares

Week Ten (March 8 & 10)
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* Ares
Week Eleven (March 15 & 17)
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) Ares

Week Twelve (March 22 & 24)
Topics: Devi and Ritual
Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 13 (Tantra)
         2. the Devimahatmya (listed as Encountering the Goddess in your course pack) Ares

Week Thirteen (March 29 & 31)
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 Ares

Week Fourteen (April 5 & 7)
Topics: Contemporary Political Hinduism
Readings: 1. Rodrigues: Chapter 16 (Hinduism and the West)
         2. “Introduction” in Hindu Nationalism Ares
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:

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\begin{align*}
A+ &= 90-100 \\
A &= 85-89 \\
A- &= 80-84 \\
B+ &= 77-79 \\
B &= 73-76 \\
B- &= 70-72 \\
C+ &= 67-69 \\
C &= 63-66 \\
C- &= 60-62 \\
D+ &= 57-59 \\
D &= 53-56 \\
D- &= 50-52 \\
F &= 0-52
\end{align*}
\]

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/

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/

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 due to 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 expected 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 4th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125 4th Floor Library