

Religion 202

Understanding Indian Religions

03

TuTh 11:15am-12:30pm

INSTRUCTOR:	Sarah Hadmack
OFFICE:	Palanakila 140
OFFICE HOURS:	TuTh 9:45am-10:45am, W 3:00pm-5:00pm
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EFFECTIVE DATE:	Fall 2007

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Historical survey of the teachings and practices of the major religious traditions of India. WCC: DH, WI

Prerequisites: Placement in English 100

Recommended Preparation: Religion 150 or 151

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

One conference with the instructor will be scheduled outside of class in order to discuss the student's research paper.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Identify the myths, histories, doctrines, and practices of Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism.
2. Identify each religion's understanding of the human condition, ethics, knowledge, death, the afterlife, and conceptions of the divine.
3. Identify common themes within the religions studied.
4. Interpret primary sources (such as epics, devotional poetry, mystical instruction, myths, and hymns)
5. Examine the relationship between religion and culture/society.
6. Question and think critically.

COURSE TASKS

Please NOTE: assignments are due within the first 15 minutes of class.

1. Attendance and class participation.
2. Satisfactorily pass the two exams. Exams will be challenging but students are allowed open notes and open books.
3. Satisfactorily complete the research paper. Each student will select a topic he/she finds interesting in Indian Religions and begin researching it early in the semester. Research papers include submitting drafts, peer reviews, and one conference with the instructor. The research paper should be approximately 8-10 pages double-spaced. Paper writing guidelines and a rubric will be distributed prior to the due date.
4. Satisfactorily complete four shorter papers. The shorter papers do not require drafts, peer reviews, or conferencing. For these essays, students will be provided with the paper topic and should select the format in which he/she would like to write. NOTE: some formats require a 1-2 page reflection paper.
5. Satisfactorily present on one topic in Indian Religions. The presentation should include a visual aid and a handout for other students in the class.
6. Complete the reading assignments.
7. Come to class prepared and with an open mind.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Grades will be based on the following:

Research Paper	30%
Class presentation, participation, and attendance.....	20%
2 Exams (15% each)	30%
Four papers (5% each)	20%
	100%

Grades available:

A = 90% -100%

B = 80% -89%

C = 70% -79%

D = 60% -69%

F = 59% and below

N= The 'N' grade indicates that the student has worked conscientiously, attended regularly, finished all work, fulfilled course responsibilities, and has made measurable progress. However, either the student has not achieved the minimal student learning outcomes and is not prepared to succeed at the next level, or the student has made consistent progress in class but is unable to complete the class due to extenuating circumstances, such as major health, personal, or family emergencies.

LEARNING RESOURCES

- *Indian Religions: A Historical Reader of Spiritual Expression and Experience* by Peter Heehs
- *India: An Illustrated History* by Prem Kishore and Anuradha Kishore Ganpati
- I recommend a three ring binder for notes rather than a spiral notebook considering that you will receive many handouts from your classmates.

COURSE CONTENT

Please see the Religion 202 Schedule hand out for information on the course content.

Additional Information

Attendance:

Make-up assignments will NOT be allowed unless arrangements are made PRIOR to the assignments. Students are expected to attend all classes, arrive on time, and remain for the entire class period. Students who miss class are responsible for material covered in their absence. Consult with peers or the instructor to make up missed work. An absence requires a written excuse from an official source, such as a medical doctor. Two unexcused absences will result in the lowering of the final grade by one letter.

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to act with personal integrity, to respect other students' opinions and property, and to help create an academic environment in which discussion is encouraged. Students are expected not to engage or tolerate acts of plagiarism, cheating, copying, fabrication of citations, or other acts of academic dishonesty. Students charged with academic dishonesty face serious consequences that range from an F grade for the assignment to a Fail grade for the course.

Cell Phones:

Kindly do not answer phone calls, text message, or play games on your cell phone during class. The instructor urges you to turn off your cell phone during class.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit can be earned by writing a two-page double spaced reaction paper to an article in the course reader (kept on reserve in the WCC library). Students may write up to five extra credit papers. Extra credit papers must be received by December 4th.

Disabilities Accommodation:

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Akoakoa 213 for more information.



RELIGION 202 SCHEDULE



Please have completed the assignments and readings for the class day under which they are listed.

&REQ=required reading

∴DUE =assignment due in the first 15 min of class

August 21 – Namaste! India photo slide show; how does one learn? Introduction to the course; Syllabus distributed.

&REQ: Please purchase texts today.

August 23 – Sanskrit pronunciations; selection of topics for presentations; Cultural symbols: bindi, om, lotus, eyes of Buddha, feet of gurus, lingams, yonis.

&REQ: Heehs, Introduction p.1-36; Kishore, Customs and Rituals p.179-186

August 28 – Portrayals of India and Historical overview; Cultural symbols continued: mehndi, cows, ascetics among the crowds, vegetarianism, sacred thread, rangoli, and kolam.

&REQ: Kishore, Indus Valley Civilization p.3-12

∴DUE: Alphabet India entry

August 30 – Meet the Gods

&REQ: Heehs, The Puranas p.209-218; Kishore, Religion p.151-166

September 4 – Wisdom of the Vedas

&REQ: Heehs, The Veda p.39-55; Kishore, Vedas and Upanishads p.12-16

∴DUE: Research paper topic

September 6 – Vedanta Philosophy; Advaita; Shankara

&REQ: Heehs, The Upanishads p.57-88; Vedantic Philosophies p.233-240

September 11 – Parshva and Mahavira: Jain Victors

&REQ: Heehs, Jainism p.89-102; Kishore, Jainism p.22-25

∴DUE: Writing Assignment 1

September 13 – Jain Karma Theory

September 18 – Jainism

&REQ: Heehs, Jaina Philosophy p.230-233; Kishore, Jainism p.174-176

September 20 – Buddha; Nagarjuna

&REQ: Heehs, Theravada Buddhism p.103-130; Kishore, Buddhism p.25-33

September 25 – Buddhism

&REQ: Heehs, Spiritual Philosophies p.221-226; Kishore, The First Indian Empire p.35-42

∴DUE: Writing Assignment 2

September 27 – Samkhya

&REQ: Heehs, Samkhya and Yoga p.131-143

October 2 – Om: Yoga; Ayurveda

&REQ: Heehs, Siddhas, Yogis and Others p.281-301

October 4 – Yoga Class: Asanas, Pranayama, and Dhyana

October 9 – Divine Feminine: Devi

October 11 – Exam 1

October 16 – Tantra; Kama Sutra

&REQ: Heehs, The Tantras p.185-207; Kishore, The Gupta Dynasty p.43-49

October 18 – Nyaya; Carvaka; Peer Reviews (15-20min)

&REQ: Heehs, The Bhagavad Gita p.147-165

∴DUE: Bring in a copy of your research paper for peer review.

October 23 – Hindu Devotionalism

&REQ: Heehs, Siddhas, Yogis, and The Bhakti Movement p.303-320

∴DUE: Research paper draft

October 25 – Ramayana; Ramacharitmanas

&REQ: Heehs, Tulsidas p.351-352; Kishore, The Epic Stories p. 16-22

October 30 – Video

∴DUE: Writing Assignment 3

November 1 – Ramanuja; Hemacandra

&REQ: Heehs, Ramanuja p.240-243; Kishore, The South Indian Kingdoms p.51-62

November 6 – Mahadeviyakka; Mira Bai

&REQ: Heehs, The Bhakti Movement continued p.321-351; Kishore, The Rajput Era p.63-67

November 8 – Sants; Kabir

&REQ: Heehs, The Sants p.357-374

November 13 – Sikhism

&REQ: Heehs, The Sikh Gurus p.375-394; Kishore, Turkish Invasion p.69-103, Sikhism p.168-171

∴DUE: Writing Assignment 4

November 15 – Ramakrishna

&REQ: Heehs, Ramakrishna p.430-448; Kishore, The British Raj p.105-111

November 20 – Exam 2

&REQ: Look ahead to the readings due on the first class after Thanksgiving. Think about setting aside time to read them during the break.

November 22 – No Class. HAPPY THANKSGIVING

November 27 – Aurobindo, Tagore

&REQ: Heehs, Twelve Mystics of Modern India p.413-415; Sri Aurobindo p.455-474, Four Mystic Poets p.581-596; Kishore, India Today p.137-147

November 29 – Gandhi

&REQ: Kishore, The Indian Nationalist Movement p.112-136

December 4 – Gandhi video

∴DUE: Last day to turn in extra credit

December 6 – Final thoughts

∴DUE: Research paper