840:322 HINDUISM

The course is a survey of the culture, beliefs, and practices that constitute the religion of Hinduism. We will explore the important Hindu scriptures and discuss topics like the three paths to liberation, Hindu philosophy, Hindu worship, Yoga, and Hinduism in modern times.

Readings
*The Upanishads*,
*The Bhagavad-Gita*,

Requirements
1. Class Attendance and Participation (15% of the final grade). You are expected to attend every class meeting. Every session missed, without proper explanation provided through the dean’s office will result in 1 point reduction of your final grade. You are responsible for materials covered in lectures, much of which goes beyond required readings. Your participation in class discussion will show how well you have understood the readings and where clarification is necessary. It is therefore essential to keep up with the reading assignments.

2. Course Paper. A short course paper of 4-5 pages is required. The topic of the paper must be chosen by May 30 from among those given by the instructor. The course readings are the main sources of the paper. The paper should be submitted before or on June 27.

3. Exams and Grading. There will be two exams: a mid-session exam and the final exam. The final grade will be calculated in this manner: mid-session exam=35%; final exam=35%; Course paper=15%; class attendance=15%.

*Grading System:* A=100-90, B+=89-87, B=86-80, C+=79-77, C=76-70, D=69-65, F=64 and below. Incompletes, i.e. “T” grades, ordinarily will not be given.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class Day</th>
<th>Topics and Readings</th>
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| May 28    | Introduction, Early Hinduism, The Vedas  
_An Introduction to Hinduism_, Chapters 1-2. |
| May 30    | The Vedas, Vedic Religion  
_An Introduction..._, Chapters, 1-2.  
(Paper topic to be given in writing to the instructor) |
| June 4    | The Upanishads  
_The Upanishads_ (entire book).  
_An Introduction..._, Chapter 3. |
| June 6    | The Upanishads, Early Ascetic Culture  
_The Upanishads_  
_An Introduction..._, Chapter 4. |
| June 11   | The Dharma Sastras, Epic Tradition  
_An Introduction..._, Chapter 5. |
| June 13   | **Mid-session exam**  
The Bhagavad-Gita  
_The Bhagavad-Gita_ (Chapters 1-9) |
| June 18   | The Bhagavad-Gita  
_The Bhagavad-Gita_ (Chapters 10-18) |
| June 20   | Later Hindu Philosophy  
_An Introduction..._, Chapter 10. |
| June 25   | Puranic Theism; Cult of the Goddess  
_An Introduction... 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| June 27   | **Paper due**  
Hindu Worship  
_An Introduction, Chapter 9.  
_Darsan_ (entire book). |
| July 2    | Hinduism in Modern Times; Conclusion  
_An Introduction, Chapter 11 |
| July 4    | **Final Exam** |