

**Edwin F. Bryant**  
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Rutgers University  
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## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **EDUCATION**

**Columbia University**, Ph.D. 5/97, M.Phil. 5/94, M.A. 2/94.

*Major Subjects:*

Indic civilizations, religions, cultures and history; ancient and modern Indic languages and dialects; Hinduism; Middle Eastern cultures, comparative religion; study of religion.

**Columbia University**, B.A., Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures (MEALAC), 8/92  
**University of London**, School of Oriental and African Studies, 1986-89.

**Manchester University** 1976-77.

### **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Rutgers University Research Grant, 2008

Rutgers Board of Trustees Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence, 2004

Rutgers Junior Faculty Teaching Award, 2003-4

Rutgers Summer Research Grant, 2002-2003; 2004-2005

Rutgers Dialogue Grant 2003

Rutgers Board of Trustees Research Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence, 2004

American Council of Learned Societies/Social Science Research Council/National

Endowment of the Humanities International and Area Fellowship, 2000-2001.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 1995-96.

Whiting Fellowship, 1995-96 (declined).

American Institute of Indian Studies Junior Fellowship for research in India, 1994-95.

Columbia University Magna cum Laude, 1992

Columbia University Phi Beta Kappa, 1992

Foreign Language Area Scholarship (FLAS) for the study of Hindi, 1992-93, 1993-94, summer 1992.

Columbia University School of General Studies Scholarship, 1990-91.

### **LANGUAGES**

Read, spoken and written: Italian, French, Hindi.

Other: Sanskrit, Pali, Bengali, Urdu, Avadhi and Bhrajabhasa (medieval Indic dialects).

## ACADEMIC AND RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Professor, Department of Religion, Rutgers University, 2001-present.  
Lecturer on Indology, Committee for the Study of Religion, Harvard University, 1997-2001.  
Visiting scholar, Center for the Study of World Religion, Harvard University, 1997- 2000.  
Instructor, Elementary Sanskrit, Department of Religion, Columbia University, 1996-97.  
Instructor, Hindi/Urdu, MEALAC Department, Columbia University, 1996-97.  
Tutor, all levels of Hindi to students referred by the Hindi/Urdu faculty, Columbia University, 1991-1997.  
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Eastern Religions, Department of Religion, Barnard College, Columbia University, 1994.  
Teaching Assistant, Sanskrit, MEALAC Department, Columbia University, 1993-94.  
Teaching Assistant, Hinduism, Religion Department, Barnard College, Columbia University, 1993.  
Research Consultant, 1992-93, for Amy Poster, Curator, Oriental Section of the Brooklyn Museum. Translated Braj Bhasa and Sanskrit inscriptions on Indian miniature paintings and provided commentaries.  
Rapporteur, The Integrated Humanities Institute on India, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, 1992-93.  
Teaching Assistant, all levels of Hindi/Urdu, MEALAC Department, Columbia University, 1991-92.  
Teacher of English as a foreign language, Jerusalem, 1977-78; Tehran, 1978-79; Bahrain, 1984-85.

## COURSES TAUGHT

**Harvard University:** Introduction to Hinduism; Krishna; Theism in Indic Thought; The Bhagavad Gita and its Commentaries; The Yoga of Devotion: Reading of a Hindu Theological Text; Philosophies of India; Reading Hindu Texts; Hindu Gurus in the West; The Rise of the Goddess Tradition; God as Lover, Child & Friend; Sanskrit; Hindi.

**Rutgers University:** Hindu Scriptures (840:204); Religions of the Eastern World (840:211); Introduction to Hinduism (840:322); Krishna (840:357); Hindu Philosophy (840:368); Hindu Gurus in the West (840:345); Sanskrit (independent study, first and second year); Yoga: History and Philosophy (840:393); The Bhagavad Gita and its Commentaries (840:358), Vedanta Sutras and their Commentaries (840:403); Ancient Greek and Hindu Philosophical Thought: Comparative Perspectives (272:01).

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

#### **Authored:**

The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali (with Insights from the Traditional Commentators). (North Point Press, A division of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York 2009) pp. 598 + lxvii, Edwin F. Bryant.

Krishna: The Beautiful Legend of God (Srimad Bhagavata Purana Book X). (Penguin Books, 2003) pp. 515 + lxxxi, Edwin F. Bryant.

The Quest for the Origins of Vedic Culture: The Indo-Aryan Migration Debate. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001) pp. 379 + xi, Edwin Bryant.

Yoga Tales from Ancient India: Selections from the Bhagavata Purana, *in progress*.

#### **Edited:**

Krishna: a Source Book. Edited volume. (New York: Oxford University Press 2007) pp. 575+xiv, Edwin F. Bryant.

The Indo-Aryan Controversy: Evidence and inference in Indian History. (Richmond, UK: Routledge, 2005), pp. 522+xi. Edited by Edwin F. Bryant and Laurie L. Patton.

The Hare Krishna Movement: The Post-Charismatic Fate of a Religious Transplant. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2004), pp. 448+xix. Co-edited with Maria Ekstrand.

Free Will and Agency in Classical Indian philosophy (New York: Oxford University Press). Co edited with Matthew Dasti, *in progress*.

### **Refereed Articles and Chapters In Books and Journals**

“Patanjali and the Yoga Commentarial Tradition’s Response to the Buddhist Challenge” in Felicitation Volume for Ted Riccardi. (*in press*).

“The Vedantic Backdrop of Patanjali’s Yoga Sutras” Journal of Indian Philosophy (*in press*).

“The Metaphysical Logic of the Siddhis, Mystic Powers, in Patañjali’s Yoga Sūtras” Journal of Indian Philosophy (*in press*).

“Hindu Classical Yoga: Patanjali's Yoga Sutras.” Contemplative Literature: A Comparative Anthology on Meditation and Contemplative Prayer ed Louis Komjathy (*forthcoming*).

"The Seven Stages of Samadhi in Patanjali's Yoga Sutras" in Cultural Histories of Meditation Proceedings from the Oslo University Conference (*in press*).

"The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali" Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy <http://www.iep.utm.edu/> (*forthcoming*).

"The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate." The I-E Language Family: Pre-Historical Reality of Linguistic Fabrication? (Monograph of the Journal of IE studies, 2009), pp. 4.1– 4.32. Edwin Bryant.

"Introduction" and "Krishna in the Tenth Book of the Bhagavata Purana" in Krishna: A Sourcebook. Ed. Bryant. (Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 4-20 & 111-136. Edwin F. Bryant.

"Strategies of Vedic Subversion: The Emergence of Vegetarianism in Post-Vedic India" in A Communion of Subjects: Animals in Religion, Science and Ethics. Eds. K. Patton, & P. Waldau. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 194-203. Edwin Bryant.

"Concluding Remarks." In The Indo-Aryan Controversy: Evidence and inference in Indian History. (Richmond, UK: Routledge, 2005), pp. 468-506. Eds. E. Bryant & L. Patton.

"Introduction" and "Concluding Reflections." In The Hare Krishna Movement: The Post-Charismatic Fate of a Religious Transplant. (New York: Columbia University Press 2004), pp. 1-10 & 431-441. Eds. E. Bryant & M. Ekstrand.

"Somewhere in Asia and No More,' Response to 'Indigenous Indo-Aryans and the Rigveda' by Kazanas." Journal of Indo-European Studies 30.3-4 (2003): 341-353.

"Hare Krishna Movement." In Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity and Popular Expression. (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2003), pp. 110-112. Eds L. Leon & G. Laderman. Edwin Bryant.

"Il Dibattito sulle Origini della Civiltà Indiana" (The Debate over the Origins of Indian Civilization). In Cultural Studies e Tradizioni Intellettuali: tra India ed Europa Ed. Federico Squarcini (Milano: Mimesis, 2002) pp. 333-350. . Edwin F. Bryant.

"The Date and Provenance of the Bhagavata Purana." Journal of Vaishnava Studies 11:1 Fall (2002): 51-80.

"Disput um die Vergangenheit. Indoarische Ursprünge und Moderner Nationalistischer Diskurs" (The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate and the Politics of Identity). In 'Arier' und Dravidien. Eds M. Bergunder & R.P. Das (Halle: Verlag der Franckeschen Stiftungen, 2002), pp. 206-231. Edwin Bryant.

"The Indo-Aryan Migration Debate and Nationalist Discourse." In New Perspectives on Vedic and Ancient Civilization. Ed. B.D. Sharma (Los Angeles: World Association for Vedic Studies, 2000), pp. 11-26. Edwin Bryant.

“Linguistic Substrata and the Indo-Aryan Migration Debate.” In Aryan and Non-Aryan in South Asia. Eds J. Bronkhorst & M. Deshpande. (Harvard Oriental Series. 3, 1999), pp 59-83. Edwin F. Bryant.

Contributor to Poster, Amy G., Indian Paintings of the Brooklyn Museum. (New York: Hudson Hills, 1993, 12). Edwin Bryant.

Translated two Braj Bhasa poems from the Sur Sagar (10: 4156 & 4157), Journal of Vaishnava Studies, 1:1 (1992): 6-8.

### **Academic Electronic Media.**

The Yoga Sutras Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy.

### **Non-Refereed Journal Articles**

“Is Yoga Really Universal.” Integral Yoga Magazine Summer (2011): 44-45.

“Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and its Commentaries 5-7” Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought 6 (2007): 82-85. Edwin F. Bryant.

“Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and its Commentaries 8-11” Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought 7 (2007): 29-31. Edwin F. Bryant.

"Inside the Bhagavad Gita." Integral Yoga Magazine Spring (2007): 10-12. Edwin F. Bryant.

"Inside the Vedanta Tradition." Integral Yoga Magazine Fall (2007): 10-13. Edwin F. Bryant.

"Inside the Yoga Tradition." Integral Yoga Magazine Winter (2007): 18-20. Edwin F. Bryant.

"The Bhagavata Purana" Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought No 5. Fall (2006)

"Was Patanjali a Vaishnava?" Journal of Vaishnava Studies. 14.1 (2005): 7-28.

"Krishna's Lila and the practice of Bhakti Yoga in the Bhagavata Purana." Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought 5 (2006): 42-49. Edwin F. Bryant.

"The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and its Commentaries 3-4." Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought 2 (2004): 36-37. Edwin F. Bryant.

"The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali." Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought Part III Winter (2004) (ongoing serialized contribution).

"The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and its Commentaries 1-2." In Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought. 1 (2003): 33-39. Edwin F. Bryant.

"The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali." Namarupa: Categories of Indian Thought Spring 1 (2003): 33-38 (monthly serialized contribution).

"Living Yoga: History Repeats Itself" Yoga Journal. 163 (2001): 65-68. Edwin F. Bryant.

### **Published Book Reviews**

Early India from the Origins to AD 1300 by Romila Thapar H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online (April 2004); <<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/review>>.

"Review: A Sanskrit Primer by Madhav M. Deshpande." Journal of Hindu Studies 5.2 Fall (2002): 202-204.

### **Papers Presented**

"Krishna in Indian Art and Culture" Bureau of Culture in Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China May 2012.

"The Two Types of Liberation in the Bhagavata Purana." Symposium, University of California at Santa Barbara, November, 2011

"Meditation in the Yoga Tradition." Forum. Rutgers University, November 2011

"The Seven Stages of Meditative Insight (Samadhi) in the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali" Brown University Sept, 2010

"The Seven Stages of Samadhi in Patanjali's Yoga Sutras" Cultural Histories of Meditation conference, Oslo University, Aug 2010.

"Who Owns Yoga?" Panel Discussion. Princeton University, Feb 2010.

"The History of the Debate over Indo-Aryan Origins" Doshi Bridgebuilder Conference on the Indus/Sindhu Valley and Sarasvati River Valley Civilizations, Loyola Marymount University February, 2009.

"Indo-Aryans: Contested Origins." Rethinking Religion in India conference, Delhi, January 2009

Panel on Yoga Books. American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November, 2008

"Isvara in Patanjali's Yoga Sutras" Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Princeton University, Oct 2008.

"Roundtable on Translation" The Program in Comparative Literature Rutgers University April, 2008

"The Euro-Centric Indo-Europeans from Indo-Centric perspectives." Conference reconsidering

Indo-European, Cambridge University, November 2005.

"Scandalous Krishna: Nineteenth Century Debates on the Morality of the Bhagavata Purana's Tales of Love." Krishna Symposium, Stamford University, May, 2005

"Notions of the Self and Identity In Classical Yoga." Committee for South Asian Studies, Princeton University, April, 2005.

"The Date and Provenance of the Bhagavata Purana," Conference in Honor of Dennis Hudson, Columbia University, November, 2002.

"The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate," Conference on Aryanism in Indian Historiography, University of North Carolina, November, 2002.

"The Battle over Origins: Stereotypes and Counter-Stereotypes in the Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate," Panel on Hinduism in Dialogue with the Western Academy, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November, 2001.

"Conflicting Orders from Above: Hindu Deity Worship and the Graven Image," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November, 2000.

"The Emergence of Vegetarianism in Hindu Textual Sources," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November, 1999.

"The Indo-Aryan Migration Debate and the Politicization of History," Conference on 'Arier und Dravidien,' Martin Luther Universität, Halle, Germany, October, 1999.

"Dating Vedic Texts: An Astro-chronological Approach," Annual Conference of South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October, 1998.

"The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate: The Politics of a Discourse," Second Annual Conference of the Association of Vedic Studies, Los Angeles, August, 1998.

"The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate: Dissident Voices from India," Tenth Annual Conference of Indo-European Studies, Los Angeles, July 1998.

"Sacred Sources of Indic Tradition," The Agha Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, November, 1997.

"The Indigenous Aryan School of Historians," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November, 1997.

"The Aryan Invasion debate: the Linguistic Evidence," Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October, 1997.

"The Indo-Aryan Invasion Debate," Study of Religion Colloquium, Harvard University, November, 1997.

“Linguistic Substrata and the Indo-Aryan Migration Debate,” Aryan and Non-Aryan in South Asia Conference, University of Michigan, October, 1996.

“The Origin of the Aryans: Some Linguistic Considerations,” Indus Sarasvati Conference, Atlanta, October, 1996.

"Indian Proto-history from a Traditional Hindu Point of View," University of Mysore, India, February, 1995.

"In Defense of the Tradition," Regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Union Theological Seminary, New York, April, 1994.

### **Other**

Featured in a 3 hours documentary on Yoga, called ‘Yoga Unveiled.’