

840:345

HINDU GURUS IN THE WEST

Tue/Thur, 6th period; 5.35-6.55 PM

Ruth Adams Bldg #206, Douglass Campus

Instructor: Edwin Bryant.

Tel: x 23289. E-mail: <edbryant@rci.rutgers.edu>.

Office Hours: Tue 2.00-3.00 PM. Loree 108, Douglass Campus.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will be about the transplantation of modern postural Yoga into the West. The course will consider how Yoga, which in its traditional setting is defined as the stilling of all states of mind (meditative practices), becomes associated in the popular western imagination almost exclusively with postural bodily practices. Key players and socio-cultural influences in this process of transformation will be highlighted.

Course Prerequisites: None.

Course Requirement: Class attendance and participation (10% of the final grade – 10 or more absences constitutes a Fail grade); a mid-term (20% of the final grade each); and a final cumulative exam (30% of the final grade); and a final paper (40% of the final grade). **Please note: there are no make-ups for missed exams except in the case of an absence caused by an unexpected emergency and evidenced by a doctor's or dean's note. In the event of such a documented emergency, the instructor must be informed of the impending absence immediately (i.e. on the day of the quiz), and the make-up must be taken on the day after the quiz. There are no exceptions to these conditions.**

Required Reading:

(Books available at the Book Store):

De Michelis, *A History of Modern Yoga* London: Continuum, 2004

Singleton, Mark *Yoga Body: The History of Modern Posture Practice* New York: Oxford, 2010.

Alter, Joseph S *Yoga in Modern India* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004

Strauss, Sarah *Positioning Yoga* Oxford: Berg, 2005

Syman, Stephanie *The Story of Yoga in America* New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010

Singleton, Mark and Byren, Jean, eds Yoga in the Modern World London; Routledge, 2008

(Book available on Sakai)

Sjoman, N.E. *The Yoga Tradition of the Mysore Palace* New Delhi: Abhinav, 1996.

Readings

Thur Sept 1

Introduction to the Course.

Tue Sept 6

De Michelis, Introduction & Chap 1-2

Thur Sept 8 – Monday Classes

Tue Sept 13

De Michelis, Chaps 3 -4

Thur Sept 15

De Michelis, Chaps 5-6

Tue Sept 20

De Michelis, Chaps 7-8

Thur Sept 22

Sjoman, entire

Tue Sept 27

Singleton, Introduction & Chaps 1-2

Thur Sept 29
Singleton, Chaps 3-4

Tue Oct 4
Singleton, Chaps 5-7

Thur Oct 6
Singleton, Chaps 8-9

Tue Oct 11
Alter, Chaps 1-2

Thur Oct 13
Alter, Chaps 2-3

Tue Oct 18
Alter, Chaps 4-5

Thur Oct 20
Alter, Chaps 5 -6

Tue Oct 25
Alter, Chap 7

Thur Oct 27
Strauss, Chaps 1-2

Tue Nov 1
Strauss, Chaps 3-4

Thur Nov 3
Strauss, Chap 5 & afterword.

Tue Nov 8
Syman, Chaps 1-3

Thur Nov 10
Syman, Chaps 4-6

Tue Nov 15
Syman, Chaps 7-9

Thur Nov 17
Syman, Chaps 10-12

Tue Nov 22 Thurs classes
Syman, Chap 13

Thur Nov 24 Thanksgiving.

Tue Nov 29
Singleton and Byrne, Chaps 1-2

Thur Dec 1
Singleton and Byrne, Chaps 3-4

Tue Dec 6
Singleton and Byrne, Chaps 5-6

Thur Dec 8

Singleton and Byrne, Chaps 7-9

Tue Nov 13

Conclusion and paper presentations.

Final exam: Wed Dec 21, 12-3.00 PM, RAB 206