

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016**

<b>Course</b>	Religious Studies 417.08 L02: <i>Sikh Diaspora</i>
<b>Time</b>	TR 2:00-3:15
<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Michael Hawley
<b>Office Hours</b>	TR 1:00-1:45pm
<b>Office</b>	SS 557
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:mhawley@mtroyal.ca">mhawley@mtroyal.ca</a>
<b>Telephone</b>	403 220 3284

**Required Text(s)**

- Kevin Kenny, *Diaspora: A Very Short Introduction*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Eleanor Nesbitt, *Sikhism: A Very Short Introduction*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Various Readings posted on D2L

**Course Description**

This course examines Sikhs and Sikhism outside beyond India, with particular emphasis on the Canadian context, using the theoretical lenses of diaspora and transnationalism. In other words, this course is not merely about migration history. Rather, the course attempts to understand how individuals and communities who identify as Sikh position themselves (real or imagined) in Canadian and transnational contexts.

The course begins with an analysis of ‘Diaspora.’ Next we will sketch the general patterns of global Sikh migration, and the attendant challenges in documenting such migration and settlement. The remainder of the course addresses a range of issues including transnational consciousness and imagination; identity; Sikh (re)construction of ‘place’ and locality; modes of cultural (re)production as expressed in such registers as literature, music, and gender; Sikh political engagement; and Sikhism and the WWW. The course content will be delivered through lectures, readings, video\film, and internationally recognized guest speakers.

**Core Competencies**

This course provides students the opportunity to develop a wide range of critical and practical skills necessary for reflective thinking and the communication of ideas. Over and above gaining a knowledge of Sikhism in a global context, this course challenges students to reflect upon and assess how we and those we study organize, live in, and relate to the world. It challenges students to identify and to call into question the presuppositions, central concepts, agendas, and cultural biases of both the scholar and the subjects of our inquiry. The analytical and self-reflective skills emphasized in this course will find application in the bulk of courses offered at the university as well as in life outside the academic setting.

Specifically, you will learn:

- key concepts, practices, and issues relating to Sikh diaspora \ transnationalism;
- skills necessary for researching and writing in religious studies, including basic fieldwork experience;
- to critically question, utilize, and formulate analytical categories and/or typologies
- important theories and approaches relating to diaspora \ transnationalism in the academic study of religion

### Course Requirements

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
January 28	Sikhism 101 Assignment	10%
February 11	Documenting the Diaspora Assignment Due	20%
February 23	Research Proposal Due	15%
As Scheduled Feb 25, March 1 and 3	Research Proposal Meeting	Pass\Fail
March 15	Images of Sikh Diaspora in Calgary Workshop	5%
March 17	Images of Sikh Diaspora in Calgary Due	20%
April 5	Research Paper Workshop	5% (papers only)
April 12	Research Poster Exhibit	5% (posters only)
April 12	<b>All Final Projects Due</b>	25%

### Grading

Course requirements **and** final grades will be reported by a **letter grade** corresponding to the 4.0 Scale.

Letter	GPA	Description From Calendar
A+	3.86 - 4.0	<i>Excellent</i> – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.
A		
A-		
B+	3.16 - 3.5	<i>Good</i> – clearly above average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B	2.86 - 3.15	
B-	2.51 - 2.85	
C+	2.16 - 2.5	<i>Satisfactory</i> – basic understanding of the subject matter.
C	2.86 - 2.15	
C-	1.51 - 1.85	
D+	1.16 - 1.5	<i>Minimum Pass</i> – marginal performance, generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in same subject.
D	0.86 - 1.15	
F	0 - 0.85	<i>Fail</i> – unsatisfactory performance, or failure to complete assignments.

**N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.**

## **Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments**

### **Missed Tests**

Test dates are firm. Without acceptable documentation (i.e. a medical certificate, police report, bereavement notice, confirmation of religious observance, or court summons), missed exams will be awarded an "F".

### **Late Assignments**

Late assignments will be awarded a letter grade penalty (e.g. B+ to B) for each 24 hour period (or portion thereof). This includes weekends.

## **Expectations for student conduct in this course**

**The success of this course depends on your active participation.** You are expected to be self-motivated and proactive in your readings. You need to complete the assigned readings *prior to* class. Come to class prepared to discuss, to raise scholarly questions, and to offer considered assessments of the assigned readings. If you are not prepared to do this, then perhaps this is not the course for you.

### **Late Policy**

Please be on time for class. While unforeseen circumstances may contribute to arriving late to class once or twice over the course of the term, repeated lateness can quickly become an annoyance for everyone in the class. We all know what traffic and weather can be like in Calgary. We all know what parking can be like at the U of C. Plan accordingly.

## **Electronic Device Policy**

You are welcome to use your laptop in class to take notes. As a simple courtesy to the instructor and to others in the class, please do not use electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class. **However, recording of lectures or class discussion is NOT PERMITTED without the prior written permission of the instructor.**

## **Syllabus**

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

## **References and Bibliography**

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html). Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

## **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

## **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

## **Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help**

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

## **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

## **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

## **Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergency-plan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergency-plan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

## **Safewalk**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.