

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2017**

**Course** RELS 451: Hindu Narrative Literature  
**Time** Wednesdays, 9-11:45 AM; SS 527  
**Instructor** Elizabeth Rohlman  
**Office Hours** Wednesdays 1-3 and by appointment  
**Office** SS 550  
**E-mail** Elizabeth.rohlman@ucalgary.ca  
**Telephone** 220-3287

**Required Text(s):**

- 1) Umberto Eco. *Six Walks in the Fictional Woods*. Harvard University Press, 1998. ISBN: 978-0-674-81050
- 2) Patrick Olivelle, translator. *Pancatantra: The Book of India's Folk Wisdom*. Oxford World's Classics, 2002. ISBN: 978-0192839886
- 3) Edwin F. Bryant, translator. *Krishna: The Beautiful Legend of God (Srimad Bhagavata Purana Book X)*. Penguin Classics, 2004. ISBN: 978-0140447996
- 4) John D. Smith, translator. *The Mahabharata*. Penguin Classics, 2009. ISBN: 9780140446814
- 5) R.K. Narayan. *The Ramayana; A Shortened Modern Prose Version of the Indian Epic*. Penguin Classics, 2006. ISBN: 978-0192839886

**Course Description:**

This seminar is an in-depth exploration of the narrative literatures of classical Hinduism. Focusing on the genres of *katha* (fable), *itihasa* (epic), and *purana* (myth), we will examine the ways in which narrative conveys religious and moral value. The interpretation of narrative through the lenses of both classical Indian and contemporary western literary theories will be a central concern of the class.

**Online elements for this course:  
( if any)**

A full syllabus, guidelines for writing assignments, and occasional supplementary readings can be found on D2L.

**Core Competencies:**

By the end of this course, students will develop a familiarity with the literary corpus of classical Hindu narrative and a detailed understanding of a few seminal narrative texts. In addition, students will be well-versed in the critical questions and issues pertaining to the role of narrative literature in religious culture.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Ongoing	Participation	30%*	Yes
Friday, October 20 11:59 P.M.	Close Reading Assignment 1	20%	Yes
Friday, November 24 11:59 P.M.	Close Reading Assignment 2	20%	Yes
Friday, December 15 11:59 P.M.	12-15 page Research Term Paper	30%	Yes

\*Details on the components and assessments of the participation grade will be included in the full syllabus and explained on the first day of class.

There is no registrar-scheduled exam for this course.

**Grading**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

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

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

Unless prior arrangements are made with the professor, grades on papers will be reduced 5 percentage points for every day they are late.

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

All discourse in this class, whether online or in person, is to be expressed in a manner that is respectful of the professor and other students.

**Electronic Device Policy:**

In order to facilitate active seminar discussion, the use of laptops or tablets is not allowed in this class. Recording of class discussion is not allowed.

**Syllabus:**

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

**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**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

### **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.

### **Freedom of Information and Privacy**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

### **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/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/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.