

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2018**

**Course** RELS 417 Lecture 1 Topic 8  
**Time** 2:00-3:20 PM  
**Instructor** Harjeet Singh Grewal  
**Office Hours** 12:00-2:00 PM  
**Office** Social Sciences Building Rm. 542  
**E-mail** harjeet.grewal@ucalgary.ca  
**Telephone**

**Required Text(s):**

None

**Optional Text(s):**

Hawley, Michael, ed. *Sikh Diaspora: Theory, Agency, and Experience*. Leiden: Brill, 2013.

Nijhawan, Michael. *The Precarious Diasporas of Sikh and Ahmadiyya Generations: Violence, Memory, and Agency*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

Tatla, Darshan Singh. *The Sikh Diaspora: Search for Statehood*. Seattle: University of Washington, 1999.

**Course Description:**

The Sikh Diaspora begins in the nineteenth century as ex-soldiers from the British Sikh regiments began to explore other colonies for opportunities. Sikh have settled across the globe; the two largest Diasporas are in England and Canada. How does diaspora shape religiosity and impact interactions in the public sphere through stereotypes? Living as a Diaspora presents unique opportunities and challenges for the tradition and nations they inhabit. This course grapples with such instances to think about diaspora beyond the nation-state and transnationalism.

This course examines networks adapting Sikh culture to globalization through the theme of movement. Students consider the challenges migration creates in terms of creating alternate community norms through multicultural interaction by diasporas in Canada, England, and the United States. This includes examining events and documents reflecting issues faced by the Sikhs such as coverage by news coverage, film, and documents created by community members and mainstream media. Students will discuss how debates on religious identity and human rights, engendered violence, popular culture, visibility, entrepreneurship, and honor killings are shaped by interactions between the Sikh community, other minorities, majoritarian perceptions, and democratic institutions such as the judiciary.

## Core Competencies:

Outcomes of this course include strong grounding scholarly perspectives in this burgeoning field of study that increasingly view diaspora beyond ideas of dispersion.

Students will learn about key moments and central issues that Sikhs continue to face when migrating from the Punjab region to areas across the world. They will also learn how Sikhs have adapted while facing these challenges and acting as brokers of cultural exchange.

Through their writing, student will consider the relationship between religion and minorities in secular multicultural nations. Students will develop skills of thinking critically through writing and sharing close readings of documents and literature from the Sikh Diaspora.

## Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Response Papers: Students will choose which week these are submitted.	Reading Response 1	10%	
	Reading Response 2	10%	
	Visual Culture 3	15%	
	Media Analysis 4	15%	
March 1	Exam 1	20%	
April 12	Exam 2	10%	
	Discussion & Partici- pation	20%	

## 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:

Assignments will be docked one letter grade increment for each day they are late. After one week has passed, the assignment will not be accepted, and you will receive a zero for the assignment. If you have aware that assignments will be late, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor.

## Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Students will be expected to come to class having prepared by completing the assigned reading. Students should be ready to discuss the readings and themes being engaged with in discussion. This includes preparing notes and thinking about what intrigued them about the text. The instructor reserves the right to dismiss students who have not prepared for any particular class.

Office Appointments – Please expect to book an appointment during office hours. Appointments will be allotted in 15-minute increments. Come prepared for the meeting whether it is discussing a draft, reference materials, or notes.

Email – When communicating with the instructor, be mindful that you are engaging in a professional correspondence. Be respectful and courteous. Write carefully and clearly, remembering to proofread and edit the message as required. Do not use abbreviations or consider the message a form of texting. **Communication must occur through University of Calgary email accounts.**

Submissions – Papers and responses will be submitted to D2L before 11:59 p.m. on the day the assignment is due. Use MLA format with 12-point Times New Roman for and 1-inch margins. Refer to MLA style guide online or *A Canadian Writer's Reference* if you have questions about citation style. Student may also use Chicago 16<sup>th</sup> citation style, refer to the *Chicago Manual of Style* for questions about this citation style. A works cited page is required. No title pages, put title centered at the beginning of the writing. **Email or hardcopy submissions will not be accepted.** Grades will be returned alongside comments through D2L to the same place the assignment was submitted.

**Discussion Guidelines Include the Following:**

- Focus discussion on the reading. Support your statements with evidence or provide a rationale for your analysis. Feel free to refer to page numbers and quote the text.
- Discussion is meant to facilitate learning, it is not for debating. Comment to share information by bringing out relevant aspects of readings, fundamental concepts mentioned, or strategies used for analysis and reflection.
- Respect the right of fellow participants to disagree with perspective you might favor.
- Disagree with, challenge, or criticize the idea and not the person.
- Be courteous. Use attentive body language and acknowledge what peers are saying.
- Avoid being speculative and inflammatory.
- Pay attention and listen carefully to who is expressing a perspective.
- Do not interrupt speakers.
- Do not engage in private conversations when someone is speaking.
- Include one another in the discussion. Try to be mindful of the amount of time you are spending talking. If it is too much, hold back to let others speak. If it is too little, try to find an opportune moment to enter the discussion.
- Do not make assumptions about one another or generalize about social groups they may or may not belong to. Do not ask individuals to speak for a perceived social group

**Electronic Device Policy:**

Students may use laptops and tablets when accessing readings or taking notes as required in class. There should be no use of these devices beyond what is required for the class. Students who do so may be excused from class.

Cell phones should be on silence and put away during class.

**Online References for Writing Guides and Help:** There are numerous resources available through the library and online to assist in writing style, citation guides, and formatting guidelines. Student should familiarize themselves with these resources. Some good online resources include:

University of Michigan Sweetland Centre For Writing: <https://lsa.umich.edu/sweetland/undergraduates/writing-guides.html>

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL):  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

### **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**

Students are responsible to be familiar with D2L.

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.