

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2018**

**Course** REL 307- Popular Hinduism  
**Time** Tuesday, Thursday 11:00 – 12:15  
**Instructor** Mark Holum  
**Office Hours** Tue, Thurs.: 1:00-3:00  
**Office** Social Sciences 540  
**E-mail** mark.holum@yale.edu  
**Telephone** (403) 993-7288

**Required Text(s):**

(1) Wisner, William and Charlotte Wisner.

Behind Mud Walls: Seventy-five Years in a North Indian Village. Updated and Expanded Edition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000. ISBN: 978-0-520-22710

(2) Fuller, C.J. The Camphor Flame: Popular Hinduism and Society in

India. Revised and Expanded Edition. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2004. ISBN: 0-691-12048-X

(3) Hawley, John Stratton and Vasudha Narayanan, editors. The Life of Hinduism. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006. ISBN: 978-0-520-25914-1

**Optional Text(s):**

**Course Description:**

An introductory survey of the contemporary practices of Hinduism in South Asia and in diaspora Hindu communities throughout the world. Focusing on recent ethnographic research, the course examines the diversity of popular Hindu practices with special attention to differences defined by region, language, caste, and gender. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, the structure of social and family life, the organization of sacred space and time, ritual practices, and the influence and impact of modernity in Hindu life.

**Online elements for this course:**

There are no online components

**Core Competencies:**

Students will develop their abilities to:

Analyze the difference between elite and popular culture, and show how the two are interrelated in practice.

Identify the core features of popular Hinduism, and analyze how these features are related to elite Hinduism

Situate popular Hinduism in its context in South Asian society and history

Analyze the changes that popular Hinduism has undergone as a result of the onset of modernity in the subcontinent.

Use multiple forms of media, including songs, images, films, and ethnographic reports as evidence to understand and characterize popular Hinduism

Communicate their knowledge and discoveries about popular Hinduism orally and particularly in the form of scholarly communication.

### Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
	Participation	20%	no
Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Midterm Exam	35%	no
April 12 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Research Paper	35%	no
April 12 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Final Exam	10%	no

**Please Note: The Midterm and the Final will both be graded, and the higher one will count as 35% of the grade, while the lower one will count 10% of the grade!**

### 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:

All assignments must be completed by the day of final. Late work will be penalized one third a letter grade for every day that it is overdue. Your professor is understanding that there are many circumstances that can cause difficulties, and is willing to excuse one late assignment three (3) days with prior approval. Unfortunately, exams cannot be delayed in this manner except in cases of illness or serious family emergency.

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

Students are expected to come to all classes having done the reading. While attendance will not be taken, failure to attend class will cause students to miss material that will be on the exams and thus may seriously affect their grade. Students are expected to have done the readings listed on the syllabus no later than the beginning of class on the date they are listed. The professor will make repeated reference to the readings and failure to complete them will make lecture difficult to understand. The professor also reserves the right to ask questions on the exams on material covered in the reading that is not discussed in lecture.

## **Electronic Device Policy:**

Students may take notes on computers or tablets as they choose. Cellular phones are not permitted in class.

## **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.