

Religious Traditions of India (A002924)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

null

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

De Clercq, Eva LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

null **crdts** **offering**

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Religions of India, Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism

Position of the course

This course deals with a selection of India's religious traditions. It envisions the knowledge of and insight into the rise of these traditions, their development up to the present day, as well as how they are interwoven with broader socio-cultural contexts.

Contents

In this course the key elements from the history and development of the most significant shaiva, vaishnava and shakta traditions, jainism and sikhism are discussed, using some introductory handbooks and supported by visual didactic material. The students further test their knowledge and insight with a visit to a temple. Alternative to this temple visit, students may attend and review a selection of lectures in the Religious Traditions of India lecture series.

Initial competences

A broad interest in Indian culture and a good general education.

Final competences

- 1 Being able to explain the development of the most important hindu traditions, jainisme and sikhism
- 2 Understanding the terminology specific to these traditions
- 3 Having knowledge of and insight into significant academic questions concerning these traditions

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Excursion, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

In the lectures the different traditions are discussed.
The excursion consists of a guided temple visit.
Guided self study: the student writes 1. reviews of films and documentaries

illustrating the theory if the class; 2. EITHER a reflection paper on the excursion, OR a report of two presentations from the Religious Traditions of India lecture series.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Introduction to Hinduism
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

Type: Handbook

Name: Jainism: an introduction
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

Type: Slides

Name: -
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

References

Dalmia, Vasudha & Heinrich von Stietencron. The Oxford India Hinduism Reader. Oxford: Oxford .
Jaini, Padmanabh S. The Jaina Path of Purification. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979.
Johnson, W. J. A Dictionary of Hinduism. Oxford University Press, 2010. Print.
Knott, Kim. Hinduism: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000. Print.
Madan T.N, Madelaine Biardeau et al. The Hinduism Omnibus. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003. Print.
Pennington, Brian K. Was Hinduism Invented?: Britons, Indians, and the Colonial Construction of Religion. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. Print.
Wendy Doniger, Wendy. The Hindus: An Alternative History. Penguin Press, 2010. Print.
Williams, George M. Handbook of Hindu Mythology. Santa Barbara California: A[BC]-C[LI]O, 2008. Print. Web. 04.05.2013.
<http://jainelibrary.org/> 04.05.2013

Course content-related study coaching

The lecturer will answer specific questions and give extra information by appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written examination: open questions; open book exam: the student may use the handbooks.

Paper: 1. review van documentaires/films; 2. reflection paper on the temple visit, OR report on two presentations

Calculation of the examination mark

Written examination: 30%

Paper: 1. reviews of documentaries/films 50%; 2. Reflectiepaper/reviews of presentaties 20%

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance, a

(Approved)

task is imposed in substitution.

2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3. Alternative time for feedback

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy