SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
RELIGIOUS STUDIES 401 RELIGIONS OF INDIA FALL 2000
PROFESSOR WILLARD JOHNSON
COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION. THIS COURSE introduces you to religious traditions of the Indian subcontinent using a variety of sources—two books, perhaps some slides, and one unit of academic films on India. We will begin with a survey of Hinduism, then go into a long section of study of academic films about India, and we will conclude with Miranda Shaw's book on Passionate Enlightenment: Women in Tantric Buddhism. Expect an exciting, informative class.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION
This class is Religious Studies 401, taught in the College of Arts and Letters for FALL SEMESTER 2000. Serial Number: 30660. TTH 1230-1345 BA408. Please be on time for class, and I will end the class on time too. When you register or drop this class use the proper serial number. If you discontinue coming to class you must officially drop the class or you will receive a U grade, equivalent on your cumulative average to an F.

If you are crashing this class, you must receive a registration number from me—your own individual ADD CODE which cannot be transferred to another, and you add the class via RegLine.

NOTE the CR/NC (Credit-No Credit) grading option, described in the class schedule and the Class Orientation document. You change your grade status via RegLine. SINCE THIS IS AN UPPER DIVISION GE CLASS, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU TAKE THIS CLASS CR/NC (NOT AVAILABLE IF YOU ARE A RELIGIOUS STUDIES MAJOR). THIS WILL PROVIDE FOR YOU A MORE ENJOYABLE CLASS.

NOTE TWO IMPORTANT DATES—registration reminder!—SEPTEMBER 11--LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES--and SEPTEMBER 18, LAST DAY TO ADD CLASSES, CHANGE GRADING BASIS, OR WITHDRAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY.

NOTE: You must COMPLETE AND RETURN TO ME A STUDENT SELF PROFILE FORM as soon as you join this class; if not I will not be able to give you the exams, nor a final grade.

CLASS RULES
These rules discipline our learning activities, so please follow them. No talking in class! If you must, go outside; otherwise you disrupt the learning of others.

ATTENDANCE AT EVERY CLASS SESSION IS ESSENTIAL BUT I DO NOT TAKE ROLL AND IT IS ENTIRELY YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. After all you come to school to learn; class time is short but crucial to your learning. You do not come here to be disciplined by me but to be guided, and this I do primarily in class and secondarily in my office hours. You can read a book or obtain a grade (probably not good) by not coming to class, but why then should the university hire me to mediate the experience and help you out?

In this class you have Prof. Will, a living thinking still learning ignorant person. I learn as you learn; I am still learning about this subject, every
will be in the following two units. PLEASE KEEP UP; READ THE TEXT BEFORE COMING INTO CLASS, AND REVIEW AFTERWARDS. Many do poorly on this first exam due to lack of study.

Unit 2
ACADEMIC FILMS ON INDIA. For this unit, you will need to buy the book, *Glossary of Technical Terms for the Academic Study of Religion and Other Aids to Understand the Nature of Religious Experience*. Available in Aztec shops, as all our texts are. See below how we will be studying Hinduism on academic films.

Unit 3
Miranda Shaw, *PASSIONATE ENLIGHTENMENT*: Women in Tantric Buddhism (Princeton University Press). WARNING: This book is a difficult read, so please prepare before you come to class, review afterwards, and keep up with the reading. REMEMBER: you need to complete an essay as our final grading opportunity, due the last DAY OF CLASSES—not at the final exam, where you will have a final exam.

OFFICE MATTERS
My office is in the Adams Humanities Building, AH 4229. My telephone # there is 594-5175 (and I have a machine to record your messages if I am out); or you may leave a message or ask questions of the Religious Studies administrative assistant at 594-5185. My home phone is: 760-742-4234; home address: 20113 Hwy 76, Pauma Valley CA 92061-9707. My office hours are: TTTh 930-1045 and TTTh 1400-1500, and other times by appointment. Please if you intend to see me in my office let me know during class, or phone me, to confirm your time and day. But you can always drop in, too!

CLASS STUDY SCHEDULE
Please USE THIS SCHEDULE TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE RAPID PROGRESSION OF THIS CLASS, AND TO ANTICIPATE YOUR FIRST EXAM AND YOUR FILM UNIT AND YOUR FINAL PAPER. This is an extensive introductory class which requires disciplined study—you will be examined on all parts of the data base (course content) and asked to write a final paper.

UNIT # 1: The Cultural Religion of India—Hinduism.
AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 26; first exam, SEPTEMBER 28. For the unit we read in detail the Kinsley book, and will start with a film on Hinduism from *The Long Search*.

NOTE ON THE FIRST EXAM-- By the end of this first unit you will be ready for the first mix-and-match exam, consisting of 50 items where you match terms we have learned in class to quotations taken from our textbooks. In these exams there are not false items, no multiple choices, but rather all true answers which you match to descriptors taken from the books and our class discussions. These questions test your knowledge of the materials presented and discussed in class. The test IS an objective measure of how well you are following the understanding the class materials of the first unit. There will be a key to compare your answers to when you finish the exam. For these exams you must come with a number 2 pencil and a SCANTRON FORM # 882.
Special assignments RS 401 32nd Unit
Seeing Indian Religions on Film

We will actually have 5 weeks of films from Oct 3 to Nov 2. You will only need for (4) films - this allows you to miss one week or 2 classes = i.e. up to 4 films, or 2 if you miss an hour and 15 minutes.

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Nov 7th - all films must be in by this date. No late papers will be accepted after this time.

Note: Bring this to class each week in this second unit.
first exam, you must see me to have help to pass succeeding exams. NO exam make-ups will be allowed.

UNIVERSITY GRADING POLICY requires that I award an A grade only for outstanding performance on all grading opportunities, which in a typical class is less than 10%; for a B grade, I require very good work; for a C grade, I require good work; For less than adequate demonstration of learning, I award a D grade, and for unsatisfactory performance, an F. To receive a CR grade in the CR/NC grading option, I require a grade of C (73 points). Your grade is determined entirely by how many points you receive on each exam, and on the successful completion of the writing requirement. THE FIRST exam has fifty items worth two points each, hence 100 points each exam, plus one hundred points for your FILM ESSAYS, 100 POINTS for YOUR MIRANDA SHAW ESSAY, AND YOUR FINAL EXAM ESSAY, WRITTEN IN CLASS, GIVES YOU THE LAST 100 POINTS, FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR HUNDRED POINTS. There are NO MAKE-UP EXAMS NOR ANY EXTRA CREDIT WORK.

You get exactly what your three numerical grades add up to (you can check your final exam when you have finished, divided by 3. The grading scale is: 90-100, A; 80-89, B; 70-79, C; 60-69, D; below 60, F. I do give plus or minus grades: plus grades are awarded for 7-9 in each range; minus grades, 0-2 in each; and straight grades, 3-6. You can compute your letter grade at any point by adding your total grade points and dividing the total by the number of exams you have taken. THE FIRST exam consists of fifty mix-and-match items, including the final, and they are not comprehensive, but examine just on that single unit. You must bring to each exam a SCANTRON 882 card, (be sure to get the right one), available in the university bookstore, or you will not be able to take the exam. There are no wrong answers nor trick questions on these exams. The more you master the data base the better you will do, and you will need to know all the technical terms I introduce you to in class.

Everyone who has registered and has completed and returned to me the STUDENT SELF PROFILE will be allowed to take the exams. THE exam consists of FIFTY MIX AND MATCH ITEMS. I will always have a set of answers for the day’s exam so that once you hand in your Scantron card you can check your exam results and learn from your mistakes. Each exam day has fifty mix-and-match questions and answers, with no false or wrong answers, no trick questions, no confusing answers. These are not multiple choice exams. The more you know about the data base the better you can do. When you finish the exam, bring your completed Scantron card to me, then take both your exam answer packet and the question packet to the seats in the front of the room to review your work. I REPEAT: YOU MUST RETURN BOTH PACKETS TO ME BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE CLASSROOM.

For these exams, you must BRING A SCANTRON FORM 882 CARD (THE 882 FORM--LOOK OUT because OTHER SCANTRON CARDS LOOK LIKE THIS ONE, AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORE).--If you do not have this card, you will not be able to take the exam. YOU MUST RETURN ALL EXAM FORMS TO ME BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE EXAM OR I WILL GIVE YOU AN F GRADE FOR THAT UNIT, AND YOU MUST GIVE ME YOUR SCANTRON FORM WITH NAME AND NUMBER ON IT BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

Cheating Policy: The University forbids any cheating on exams; if you receive any assistance on these exams, you will be subject to suspension or expulsion from the university.