

# SANSKRIT POETRY

Instructor: Professor Patrick Olivelle

ANS 384S, Unique 32115  
FALL 2009  
UTC 4.114

T TH 12:30 - 2 PM  
Office Hours: T TH 2 - 3:30 PM  
WCH 4.112

The main purpose of this class is to provide you a firmer foundation in Sanskrit grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. We will do this by reading the epic poem (*mahākāvya*) *Raghuvamśa* by Kālidāsa, the preeminent poet and playwright of Sanskrit. As part of this course, you will be introduced to the technical vocabulary of the Sanskrit aesthetic tradition (*alaṃkāraśāstra*). Poets deliberately crafted their work according to the demands of aesthetic perfection.

## Course Requirements:

Attendance is mandatory, and you are expected to have read and translated initially at least 10 verses of the *Raghuvamśa*. We will increase the number of verses we read in class as you get familiar with the text.

In addition, you should read a book on Sanskrit aesthetics, if you have not done so already. Edwin Gerows *A Glossary of Indian Figures of Speech*, or *Indian Poetics*.

## Religious Holy Days

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

## Grading Procedures:

Grades will be based on two exams: a mid-term and a final. Each will carry 50% of the final Grade

## Academic Integrity

### University of Texas Honor Code

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

### Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Be careful not to copy the work of peers or to use material without proper attribution. Nothing can be more disastrous for your grade or for your college record than to be found to have violated the University rules on academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>.

**Documented Disability Statement**

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at (512) 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone). Please let me know about your needs as soon as possible.

**SYLLABUS**

I will not give the verses to be read for each class day. That will depend of how fast or slow we move through the text. In general expect to read 10-15 verses a day. You will receive a photocopy of the first few chapters.

**Mid-term Examination** will be on October 14.

**Final Exam** at the date set by the university.