PHIL 4200/01  
Indian Philosophy  
Semester: Spring 2016  
Location: Social Sciences Building, Room 3032  
Time: Thursdays, 2:00pm—4:45pm

Instructor: Dr. Amy K. Donahue  
Email: adonahu3@kennesaw.edu  
Phone: 770.423.6624  
Office: Social Sciences Building, Rm. 4092  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30pm — 1:45pm, or by appointment. I’m happy to meet, in person or electronically, when my schedule allows.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1102 or equivalent required. Successful completion of two or more 3000-level philosophy courses is highly recommended.

Catalogue Course Description:  
The course is a study of important texts, schools, and figures of the Indian philosophical and cultural tradition. Texts include the Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad-Gita, and Yoga-Sutras. Figures include Buddha, Mahavira, Patanjali, Sankara, Ramakrishna, Aurobindo, and Gandhi.

Instructor’s Course Description:  
Students will gain general familiarity with the Vedas and Upanishads and each of the darśānas of Indian philosophy, and more specific familiarity with Nyāya and Buddhist pramāṇa debates. In the final weeks, we will examine and critically assess Jonardon Ganeri’s contention that a new, critical orientation to tradition emerged in India with the development of “‘New’ Reason” (navya nyāya) in the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries C.E.

Required Texts:  
Select online articles and materials.

Learning Outcomes:  
For a grade of “B” or better, students must demonstrate accurate and critically reflective understanding of key philosophical texts, figures, concepts, arguments, and counterarguments.
through class participation, one short answer exam, a 5-8 page (1,250 to 2,000 word) midterm thesis paper, and a 12-15 page (3,000 to 3,750 word) final thesis paper.

**Course Assessments / Assignments:**

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One short answer exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale:**

- **A** — 90-100
- **B** — 80-89
- **C** — 70-79
- **D** — 60-69
- **F** — <60

**I** — Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when a student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond their control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

**Short Answer Exam:** In this exam, students should demonstrate accurate and appropriately detailed knowledge of concepts, terms, figures, and traditions of Indian philosophy, and demonstrate their close familiarity with the course readings by citing appropriate pages from these readings to support each textual claims. This exam will be “open book” and submitted through D2L. Students are permitted to use content from the short answer exam answers in their midterm and final papers.

**Midterm Thesis Paper:** In this paper, students should a) state and organize an argument to support a philosophical thesis (25%), and do so by b) providing accurate and comprehensive expositions of relevant textual concepts and arguments (30%), c) including parenthetical textual citations to support appropriately detailed textual claims (25%), and d) writing clearly and grammatically (20%). The midterm paper should be formatted with double-spacing, 12 point Times New Roman font, and 1” margins, and follow MLA citation guidelines (see [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/)). Please review KSU’s policies on academic integrity and plagiarism before submission. Graded papers are normally returned no more than two weeks after their due date. Students are permitted to use content from their midterm thesis papers in the final thesis papers.

**Class participation:** Good (i.e., “B”-level) participation in class requires consistent and on-time attendance, in-class attentiveness, diligent preparation before class, and appropriate engagement
with others—e.g., asking appropriate questions, responding appropriately to instructor and student questions, working constructively in group exercises, treating fellow class participants with respect and courtesy, etc.

**Final Thesis Paper:** In this paper, students should a) state and organize an argument to support a philosophical thesis (25%), and do so by b) providing accurate and comprehensive expositions of relevant textual concepts and arguments (30%), c) including parenthetical textual citations to support appropriately detailed textual claims (25%), and d) writing clearly and grammatically (20%). Your final paper should be formatted with double-spacing, 12 point Times New Roman font, and 1” margins, and follow MLA citation guidelines (see http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/). Please review KSU’s policies on academic integrity and plagiarism before submission.

**Attendance Policy:**
Attendance is mandatory. Students are required to provide a reasonable, documentable explanation for class absences.

**Electronic Devices Policy:**
The volume on all electronic devices should be turned off in class. Students are welcome to use laptops, smart phones, etc. in class to take notes and to look up material relevant to class discussions. However, unrelated texting, chatting, web-surfing, etc. during class will negatively affect students’ class participation grades.

**Academic Honesty:**
Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct.
The instructor has a zero-tolerance policy against plagiarism and uses TurnItIn plagiarism detection services when grading written assignments. **At a minimum**, students who plagiarize any part of an assignment will receive an F for that assignment, in accord with KSU’s academic misconduct procedures.

To avoid plagiarism, including unintentional plagiarism, please visit: http://plagiarism.org/
ADA Compliance:
Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, sss.kennesaw.edu/sds.

Contact information is as follows:
SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu
Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666
Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244
Tentative Course Schedule
(reading assignments and activities are subject to revision)

Week 1: Introduction
1/14 — Class introductions, welcome, and discussion of syllabus, interest in class, and the meaning, if any, of the phrase, ‘Indian philosophy.’ Lecture on Deleuze and Guattari’s theory of philosophy’s Greek origins, the roots of this theory in Kant’s and Hegel’s formalization of the discipline of ‘philosophy’, and their use of the racist anthropology of Christoph Meiners to exclude Asian intellectual traditions from the field. Was there no vibrant and critical engagement with traditional ideas before the Greeks? Introduction to the Vedas, the Upanishads, and the āstika and nāstika darśaṇas of Indian philosophy.

Weeks 2 — 5: Textual Background

(Week 2)
1/21 — Reading due: Gupta preface, introduction, and Part II: The Foundations. Donahue article (uploaded to D2L).

(Week 3):
1/28 — Reading due: Gupta, Part III: Non-Vedic Systems

(Week 4):
2/4 — Reading due: Gupta, Part IV: The Ancient Systems, Chapters 7-9 and Appendix selections, I-III

(Week 5)
2/11 — Reading due: Gupta, Chapter 14, and excerpts from the Gītā (to be assigned). Exam 1

Weeks 6-7: Early Nyāya and Vaiśeṣika

(Week 6)
2/18 — Reading due: Gupta, Part V: The Ancient Systems, Chapters 10-11 and Appendix selections, IV-V. Excerpt from Ganeri’s Philosophy in Classical India (uploaded to D2L).

(Week 7)
2/25 — Reading due: Nyāya primary source selections (uploaded to D2L). Reading due: Nyāya secondary source selections.

Weeks 8 — 9: Buddhist challenges to Nyāya (and Buddhist) pramāṇa philosophy

(Week 8)
3/2 — LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY.

3/3 — Excerpt from Ganeri’s Philosophy in Classical India (uploaded to D2L). Dīghāga, Candrakīrti and Dharmakīrti primary source selections (uploaded to D2L).

(Week 9)

3/10 — Reading due: Jñānaśrīmitra excerpts (uploaded to D2L).

Week 10: Discussion and Review

3/17 — Discussion and review.

3/21 — FIRST PAPER DUE

Weeks 11-16: Navya-Nyāya and “the lost age of reason”

(Week 11)

3/24 — Reading due: Ganeri Introduction and Part I, and Ganeri “Blueprint” (uploaded to D2L)

(Week 12):

3/31 — Reading due: Ganeri, chapters 6-8.

(Week 13: Spring Break)

(Week 14)

4/14 — Reading due: Ganeri, Part III.

(Week 15)

4/21 — Reading due: Ganeri, chapters 12 & 14, and Conclusion.

(Week 16)


FINAL PAPER: DUE THROUGH D2L ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, BY 3:00PM.