Course Organization, Requirements and Grades: Students are required to prepare for lectures by fulfilling reading assignments prior to attendance. Students must attend all class meetings. Meetings will be divided into two parts: discussions of the readings (about 1.5 hours) and a one-hour lecture by Professor White.

Beginning on January 20, seminar discussions will be led by students, in groups of two or three. Each student leading discussion on a given week will pre-circulate, via email, 1) a five-page paper linking the “text” for the week to its “context” (and, where applicable, to readings, lectures, and discussion from previous weeks), as well as 2) a set of five questions based on the readings. Papers and questions must be emailed to Professor White and all students in the class by no later than midnight on the Saturday before the Tuesday seminar meeting. So, for example, students presenting on January 20 must email their assignments out by midnight on Saturday, January 17.

Four quizzes (on 1/27, 2/10, 2/24 and 3/10) will count for 40% of the total grade; student presentations will count for 20%; and a final take-home exam will count for the remaining 40% of the total grade.

Books for Purchase:


Readings accessible through eRes: [http://eres.library.ucsb.edu](http://eres.library.ucsb.edu), password: “thunder”:


Johannes Bronkhorst, *Two Traditions of Meditation in Ancient India* (Stuttgart: Steiner Verlag, 1986).


Readings available through e-mail from Professor White:


____________, “Bhairavanand Yogi” (translation).

____________, “Kavya Usanas”; “Vipula”; “Yogavidah” (translations).


____________, *Rasarnava*, chap. 18 (translation)

____________, *Siddha-siddhanta-Paddhati*, chapter 2 (translation)

Schedule of Class Meetings

Jan. 6  Introduction

text: Auerbach, *Mimesis*, 3-23

Jan. 13  Narrative Accounts of Indian Yogis

text: White, “Bhairavanand Yogi” (translation)

          Layne, *Banabhata Kadambari*, pp. 223-27
          Pinch, *Warrior Ascetics*, pp. 29-58
          Smith, *Self Possessed*, pp. 286-98; 323-30
          White, “The Wonders of Sri Mastnath,” pp. 399-411
          McDougall, “Indian cult kills children for goddess”

Jan. 20  Origins of Yoga

text: White, “Kavya Usanas”; “Vipula”; “Yogavidah” (translations)

context:  Bronkhorst, *Two Traditions*, pp. 1-11, 45-53
          White, “Never Have I Seen Such Yogis, Brother”
          White, “Open and Closed Models”
          Roebuck, *Upanisads*, pp. 364-83; 471-78
          Miller, *Yoga, Discipline of Freedom*, 60-73
          Van Buitenen, *Bhagavadgītā*, pp. 85-121

Jan. 27  Siddhas, Yogis, Tantrikas and Alchemists

quiz #1

text: White, *Alchemical Body*, pp. 48-51; 114-18

context:  White, * Tantra in Practice*, pp. 3-38
          White, *Kiss of the Yogini*, pp. xi-xv, 1-22; 160-73
          White, *Alchemical Body*, pp. 1-14; 90-110

Feb. 3  Tantra, Polity, and Society in Medieval South Asia

text: White, *Alchemical Body*, pp. 1 [first paragraph], 118-22, 304-12

context:  Davidson, *Indian Esoteric Buddhism*, pp. 121-44
          White, *Kiss of the Yogini*, pp. 123-59
          White, “Yogic and Political Power”
Feb. 10  Bhairava, God of Power
quiz #2

context: Lorenzen, *Kapalikas and Kalamukhas*, pp. 31-48

Feb. 17  Yoginis and other Goddesses of Power

context: Sattar, *Tales from the Kathasaritsagara*, pp. 92-103

Feb. 24  Tantra and Alchemy/Power Substances
quiz #3

context: White, "Ocean of Mercury," pp. 281-87

March 3  Body Mapping in Yoga, Tantra and Alchemy

context: White, *Siddha-siddhanta-Paddhati*, chapter 2 (translation)

March 10  Alchemical and Hathayogic Transformations
quiz #4

context: Qvarnström, *Yogasastra*, chap. 18 (translation)

The FINAL TAKE-HOME EXAMINATION will be distributed via email on March 11. Due date: midnight on Friday, March 20.