



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

## ASIA\_V 398 - Narrative Literature in Premodern India

Janet Um

In this course, we will explore the diverse narrative traditions based on the ancient Indian epic, the Ramayana of Valmiki. We will start with a deep dive into the Ramayana itself. From here, we will examine how the Ramayana was reimagined from the fourth to the sixteenth century across South Asia. Then we will turn toward modern depictions of the Ramayana in literature, film, and art. Through this focused study of the Ramayana tradition across time, place, and media, we will see how ancient narrative traditions still impact and inform the stories that we tell today.

**Mode of Delivery:** In Person

### Sample Readings

Goldman, R.P. & S.J.S. Goldman, eds. (2021). The Ramayana of Valmiki (pp. 8–24). Princeton University Press.

Bose, Mandakranta & Sarika Bose, trans. (2013). A Woman's Ramayana: Candravati's Bengali Epic (pp. 52–67). Routledge

Sagar, Ramanand, director (1987) Ramayan [TV series] Sagar Pictures Entertainment.

### Assignments

Class Contribution | 15%

Weekly Class-Entry Tickets | 15%

Writing Reflections (2 out of 4) | 20%

Group Project & Presentation | 15%

Take-Home Final Exam | 35%