

## World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

**Teacher Name:** Janet Rhodes-Carlson    **Humanities Discipline:** Human Services    **Date:** November 2, 2016

**World Religion:** Hinduism

**Teaching Module Title:** Festivals and Rites of Passage

### Teaching Module Goals:

1. Students to have a basic understanding of the major Hindu festivals and their importance
2. Students to have a basic understanding of the Rites of Passage or Ashta Samskara

### Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

1. <http://iskconeducationalservices.org/HoH/practice/604.htm>
2. <http://www.sanskritimagazine.com>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrrW3rO51ak>– Diwali; Festival of lights
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzvZ1Fd8ICA>- Celebration of Ganesh
5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xaysqwFoVOE>– Holi festival

### Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

1. What is the purpose of the festivals?
2. What are the practices of the various festivals?
3. What are the three main types of festivals?
4. What is important about cultures having rites of passage?
5. How are Hindu rites of passage different from and similar to those of other religions?

### Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

1. Students will be put in groups to research 2 Hindu festivals (randomly assigned by instructor) and create a presentation for the class in regard to family preparation, community preparation, and the history and religious significance of the festivals.
2. Students will participate a large group discussion about traditional rites of passage in the Hindu faith and how they are similar or different than their own beliefs and customs.