**Four Reflections on Jaina Studies (4 x 20 pts each)**

Approaching an unfamiliar historical, cultural, and philosophy-as-way-of-life perspective poses challenges and opportunities. Each of these reflections will be 1 page, single-spaced essay (not counting Works Cited list) that joins your own personal reflection and embodied experiences—whether intellectual, cultural, personal or practical—with class sources.

The best reflections (17-20 points) will:

1. Clearly answer the reflection prompt (3pts)
2. Provide key terms, definitions, and quotes from course sources, including Dundas, Wiley, and others. (7pts)
3. Engage content with thoughtful reflections based on intellectual and embodied engagement. (7pts)
4. Use correct in-text citations and Works Cited list formatted from *The Bedford Handbook.* (3pts)

Each Reflection is described below with *approximate* percentages of how much of your reflection to allot to each aspect of that reflection.

**Reflection 1; due 4a**

Identify and describe/define 1 or 2 specific aspects of Jaina cultural debates or historical identity formation discussed in weeks 1-3 that complicate “Jainism” or complexify Jain identity Provide robust support for your responses (70%). What parallels can you draw upon in your own personal or academic experience that help you better grasp the importance of complicating a single term or community? (30%)

**Reflection 2; due 7a**

Choose and define one Jain “real” using course sources (30%). In your understanding of the Jaina metaphysical system, why is “right view” of this “real” essential to right knowledge and right conduct? Provide robust textual support for your responses (40%). How might “trying on” this “real” impact your own concepts of knowledge and conduct (30%)?

**Reflection 3; due 9b**

Choose 1-2 aspects of our visit to the Jain Center and connect it to our course readings in any robust way you see fit, with robust support from or connections to course sources (70%). This could be an image, ritual, description, activity, question, etc. How does physically visiting a community or place complicate and/or enrich the academic study of the Jaina tradition? (30%)

**Reflection 4; due with final exam in week 11**

Choose any mendicant or lay restraint that we have covered in this class that you will practice for a set duration of time. You can define the restraint and the duration in any way you want. For example, you may want to fast from eating a certain food for a weekend, speaking for X hours, spending money or using your phone for a day, etc. You may choose to limit your traveling distance for a week, eat X meals with nonattachment, walk, sit, or lay down with carefulness, avoid exposure to violent or high-emotion media, or any other restraint/duration you choose. In your reflection, state your intended restraint and duration (10%) and then put it into practice. Were you able to fulfill your intention and what challenges did you experience? (10%) As you reflect on the experience during and afterwards, try to identify specific claims, terms, or features of the Jaina tradition using course sources that were illuminated differently through your embodied action (60%). How does embodied practice contribute to your evolving understanding of Jaina philosophy and religion? (20%)