



HINDU AMERICAN TEMPLE SCHOOL (HATS)

The Educational branch of The Hindu Society of Minnesota (HSM) <http://www.hindumandirmn.org>

SCHOOL INFORMATION BROCHURE:

Please contact the Admissions Coordinator or any other HATS representative if you need a clarification on any specific item below.

Please keep the brochure with you for future reference. You can submit the forms and check (**payable to "Hindu Society of Minnesota"**) in person to Mumta Gosain (HATS Admissions Coordinator for 2010-2011) outside the Sane Library in the Hindu Mandir. Mumta will be available from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Sundays from 25th April – 23rd May 2010. Her email is mumta@comcast.net

OR mail the required forms with your check to the following address:

Vishal Agarwal
18583 – 63rd Ave N, Maple Grove, MN 55311
Ph: 763-478-6600 (Home); 763-227-1049 (Cell)
Email: vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com

VENUE OF HATS: The Hindu Mandir, 10530 Troy Lane N, Maple Grove, MN 55311

Classes will be held in classrooms in the left-wing of the Mandir campus (as you enter the Mandir). For specific religious activities, teachers may take students to the prayer hall with the deities upstairs as well.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES: (120 MINS, ONCE A WEEK)

1. **ANNUAL CALENDER:** The academic session of HATS is approximately 9 months and follows the regular school calendar. Classes will be held from 12 September 2010 through 22 May 2010. A detailed week-by-week calendar for the entire academic year will be provided on the first class to all students and parents.
2. **DAY OF WEEK:** Classes will be held weekly **every Sunday morning**.
3. **TIME OF HATS CLASSES:** Please see Table I below for the weekly school schedule. Parents must attend the assembly with their children. After the assembly, parents and children attend separate classes. Please plan to arrive at least 5 minutes before the start of the assembly so that the school proceeds on schedule.

4. **HOLIDAYS:** The school will be shut around Thanksgiving, New Year and Spring Break. Please refer to HATS calendar for more details. The curriculum is designed for 30 teaching sessions in the whole year.
5. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Students are expected to attend 75% or more classes every year.
6. **STUDENT PICK-UP POLICY:** Parents must take custody of their children within 10 minutes of the end of their last class. If a parent is more than 10 minutes late, he will be required to make a donation of \$10 to the Hindu Society of Minnesota.
7. **ASSEMBLY CANCELLATION:** On rare occasions, HATS may be compelled to cancel the weekly assembly if the auditorium is needed for other religious or cultural functions. Parents will be notified in advance in such cases.
8. **SEVERE WEATHER CANCELLATIONS:** The HATS policy about cancellations will be explained on the inauguration day.

TABLE 1 (HATS CLASS SCHEDULE)

<i>TIME SLOT</i>	<i>SCHEDULE</i>
10:00 AM– 10: 15 AM	Assembly: Prayer/Shloka, announcements
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	Religion Class for children (includes snack time for lower grades)
11:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Language class for Children
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM	Meditation, Geeta/ Upanishad class for adults

* Families are welcome to stay back after school and purchase lunch offered at noon every Sunday

ABOUT THE DHARMA CURRICULUM:

1. The **Dharma classes for children are mandatory**, whereas the **language classes are optional**. You cannot register your children for language classes unless they are also registered for the Dharma class too.
2. The school will follow a graded and a diverse curriculum that meets the requirements of children (from ages 5-15 yrs) growing up in the American society. Adult classes may also be offered in the future.
3. The classes will cover different aspects of Hindu Dharma, including spiritual practices such as Yoga, in an age appropriate manner.
4. The school will not favor any one Hindu tradition over another, and will be non-sectarian and all-inclusive in keeping with the eclectic nature of the Hindu Temple in Maple Grove, MN. In higher grades, students might be exposed to diverse viewpoints within the Hindu tradition, and will be encouraged to compare and contrast our traditions with other religious traditions.
5. A summary of the curriculum planned for different grades may be obtained by requesting the Admissions Coordinator or a representative at the hospitality desk. The curriculum for different grades in HATS is designed to synchronize with the material that the children learn in their regular schools in that particular grade.
6. Teaching is entirely done by trained volunteers. No prior qualifications are required for parents to volunteer as teachers, but they must undergo training provided by HATS teachers committee. Parents with specialized skills such as teaching licenses are highly encouraged to serve as volunteer teachers.
7. The medium of instruction in the religion classes will be English although students will be encouraged to learn spiritual vocabulary from sacred Hindu languages such as Sanskrit and Tamil.

ABOUT THE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM:

1. HATS is offering the following six languages to students this year: Tamil, Hindi, Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati and Kannada. However, we are open to adding more languages during the year if there is an interest from parents.
2. The language classes are only for children. No adult language classes are planned this year.
3. As stated above, language classes are optional. You cannot register your child for the language class unless he or she is already registered for the Dharma class. However, exceptions can and will be made to this rule, depending on availability of seats and other factors (e.g., students who are not Hindus but want to learn the language).
4. HATS teaches languages as a cultural window to our Dharma. Therefore, language classes can also have a religious content. For example, religious hymns in a particular language may be taught to students taking that language class.
5. Language classes focus on both the spoken language as well as on the script.
6. The language curriculum is meant to give students a working proficiency in their ancestral language, rather than make them linguistic scholars.
7. Parents can register their children in a language that is different from their mother tongue. E.g., Marathi speakers may enroll their children in the Hindi language class.

8. Workbooks and other teaching aids will be used in the classroom.
9. Language classes may be cancelled if there is insufficient interest or there are no volunteers for a specific language. If enrolment for a particular language is very high, classes may be split into multiple sections.

INTENDED AUDIENCE & DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS IN HATS:

1. The school is primarily aimed children and teenagers in the age group 5-15 years.
2. Pre K or 4 year old children (age as of September 2010) will be accepted only if they have an elder sibling in HATS.
3. The grade in which your child is placed in HATS will normally coincide with the grade the child attends in his regular school. Upon a parent's request, the child may be placed in HATS in a grade that is different from the grade he/she is enrolled in the regular school. However, we do not encourage this practice.
4. HATS may have to split individual grades into several sections, or merge multiple grades into one to optimize utilization of available resources. Care will be taken to ensure that the age disparity between students in any given grade in HATS is kept to a minimum.
5. Students older than 15 years might be pooled with adults for instruction. These students also have the option of teaching as volunteers with adult teachers.
6. The school is open to both Hindus and non-Hindus alike.

SUGGESTED DONATION:

1. **Suggested amount for the year 2010-2011 is \$150 per student for the mandatory Dharma class, and \$100 per student for the optional language class, payable on or before the first day of school. If you do not register for language, you pay for the Dharma class only**
2. The money may be paid through a check in favor of "*Hindu Society of Minnesota*" (HSM).
3. **Each family is required to pay for only for a maximum of their two highest paying children.** Third and more children belonging to the same family are free, although voluntary donations made to HSM are most welcome.
4. The donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law. Your cancelled check or bank statement is your receipt, although the Hindu Society of Minnesota can issue a separate receipt upon request.
5. The amount covers the cost of most of the supplies that will be arranged for students by the school. For additional supplies, refer to the supplies list (if any) provided by your child's teacher.
6. The donation may be reduced or waived for a limited number of economically poor families on a case-by-case basis.
7. Checks will be deposited only after the refund/withdrawal deadlines lapse.
8. The donation covers the running costs of the school and ensures its long-term growth and survival. All our teachers are volunteers and are not compensated for their labors of love in any way.
9. Adult classes are free and open to all.

REFUND POLICY:

1. The entire amount of tuition paid is refundable only if you choose to withdraw your child by the day of the 2nd session of the school. All class supplies collected by your child from the school must be returned to get the refund. No refunds are allowed beyond the second session even if the student withdraws from the school.
2. Please let your child's teacher or the Admissions coordinator know in writing (email is acceptable) if you withdraw your child so that children in the waiting list may be admitted.
3. Waitlisted students who are confirmed upon availability of seats also have till the 4th session to withdraw with full refund.
4. No refunds are permitted for withdrawals after the 4th session.

ADMISSION ALLOTMENT:

1. The school can admit only a limited number of students due to constraints of facility, volunteers and time.
2. Students are admitted on the following priority basis:
 - a. Children of Hindu priests serving in the Temple.
 - b. Currently enrolled students and their siblings.
 - c. Currently waitlisted students.
 - d. New students from general population.
3. Admissions will be on a first-come-first basis for both returning as well as new students. However, HATS will try its best to ensure that each class has a good gender and ethnic mix.
4. The tuition checks of students not admitted will be returned after a month of the first day of the school. During that period, they will be waitlisted.
5. HATS reserves the right to deregister students if they or parents/guardians cause a disruption in the smooth functioning of the school.

6. Please direct all your admission related queries to the Admissions Coordinator. For this year, the admissions coordinator is **Mumta Gosain** (mumta@comcast.net) who is assisted by Vishal Agarwal (vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com).

NOTIFICATION OF ADMISSION DECISIONS:

1. Parents of new admitted students will be notified via email. Therefore it is important to give your correct email address in the admission application form.
2. If you prefer a call for notification, please indicate so.

PARTICIPATION OF PARENTS:

1. At least 1 parent of children who are 4 years of younger should be present in the classroom with their child.
2. We require at least 1 parent (or a designated adult) of students who are 10 years of age or less to be present in the temple campus during the class time for reasons of security and emergency.
3. We strongly advise parents to review the material covered by their children in their class on a regular basis.
4. Feedback from parents on the course material is vital for the continuous improvement of our program.
5. The success and growth of the school depends on active parental participation as volunteers. Please contact any school representative if you wish to volunteer at any time of the year.
6. Parents are also urged to donate any items that could be of use to the school, e.g., Amar Chitra Katha comics, religious DVDs etc.



*Lead me from the unreal to the Real.
Lead me from darkness to Light.
Lead me from death to Immortality.*
Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.3.28

*After we die, neither our father, mother, son, wife nor one's clan is available for help.
Only Dharma that one has followed in his lifetime will be present to help us out.*
Manusmriti 4.239

*Let son be loyal to father
and of one mind with his mother.
Let wife speak to husband words
that are honey sweet and gentle. || 2 ||
Let not brother hate a brother,
nor a sister hate a sister,
Unanimous, united in aims,
May you all speak your words with friendliness. || 3 ||*
Atharva Veda 3.30.2-3





HATS REGISTRATION FORM (2010-2011)

NOTE: USE 1 FORM PER FAMILY

INFORMATION ON PARENTS:

Mother's Name:

Father's Name:

Mailing Address:

Email Address(es):

Landline Tel. No(s):

Cell No(s):

Preferred means of notification by HATS (circle 1): Email Cell Landline

STUDENT'S INFORMATION: Use additional forms if needed -

	CHILD 1	CHILD 2	CHILD 3
<i>Last Name</i>			
<i>First Name</i>			
<i>Middle Name</i>			
<i>Gender</i>			
<i>Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)</i>			
<i>Grade in regular school (as of Sept 2010)</i>			
<i>Language for Language class(optional): Tamil, Hindi, Marathi, Telugu, Kannada, Gujarati</i>			
<i>Name of Parent (or a designated adult) picking the child</i>			
<i>Name of parent (or designated) who will stay on campus (if applicable)</i>			
<i>Any other info. you'd like us to have</i>			

MAIL FORMS AND CHECKS TO: Vishal Agarwal, 18583 – 63rd Ave N, Maple Grove, MN 55311

Emergency Information & Health/Medical History Form

PLEASE FILL A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH CHILD. Print additional copies if needed.

Note:

- For children 10 years of age or younger, at least one parent should be present in the vicinity of the Mandir during the school in case they need to be reached during an emergency. Exceptions can be made if the parents designate another adult who will be present in the Mandir in their absence.
- In case of an emergency we will contact 911, and then call the contact person using the cell number(s) provided above in that order. If the parents are non-reachable, we will contact the child's emergency contact whose information we have requested below. It is extremely important that you disclose any medical condition your child may have for his or her own safety.

Name of Student: _____ DOB: _____ Gender: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home ph# _____ Cell 1: _____ Cell 2: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Contact #: _____ Cell # _____

MEDICAL/HEALTH HISTORY INFORMATION

Please list any allergies: _____

Special medical symptoms to watch for: _____

Please list any other medical conditions we need to know about: _____

List over-the-counter medication that may not be administered to me/my child: _____

Name of Child's Physician: _____ Physicians Ph # _____

Name of Insured Parent: _____ Medical Insurance Co: _____

Medical Policy # _____

This health history is correct as far as I know and the person described has permission to engage in school activities except those noted above. I give permission to HATS authorities to first contact 911 in case of an emergency, and then the emergency contact provided above.

Signature (should be a parent): _____ **Date:** _____

Name of parent signing this form:



CONSENT FORM (to be signed by a Parent)

- I confirm that I have received the HATS information brochure and have understood its contents.
- I agree that we (Parents) and our child(ren) will abide by the Policies and Procedures of HATS and of the Hindu Mandir where the classes will be held.
- I assume all responsibility for any damage or liability of any kind in connection arising out of all HATS activities and agree to hold HATS or the Hindu Mandir, its teachers or the school committee free from any liability or expense in connection with the same. I understand that HATS is also not responsible for any damage or loss to our personal items while we are on the Mandir campus.
- Further, I agree that HATS can, without prior notice, terminate or suspend any student's enrollment if his/her activities cause disruption to the school's functioning. Enrolment fee will be forfeited in such cases.
- I confirm that all the information in the registration and the Health and Medical History forms is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge and intent. In case I realize the errors in any information filled out in this form at a later time, I will notify my child(ren)'s teacher at the earliest opportunity.
- I hereby grant permission to the school authorities to administer routine care and medication, as well as any emergency care that should be required.
- I authorize the persons named below to pick my child(ren) when the school is over.

Signature of the Parent (Name in brackets)

Date

Name of Person(s) picking up child(ren):