



## 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 the following ways:**

1. **In person to Mumta Gosain** (HATS Admissions Coordinator) outside the Sane Library in the Hindu Mandir. Mumta will be available from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Sundays from 29<sup>th</sup> April – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012. Her email is [mumta@comcast.net](mailto:mumta@comcast.net)
2. **In person to Mythili Jadhav** (Afternoon HATS Front Desk) at the same location from 1-3 PM on Sundays from 29<sup>th</sup> April – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012.
3. **OR mail the required forms with your check to the following address:**  
Vishal Agarwal  
18583 – 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave N, Maple Grove, MN 55311  
**Ph:** 763-478-6600 (Home); 763-227-1049 (Cell)  
**Email:** [vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

### DETAILS:

1. **ANNUAL CALENDER:** The academic session of HATS is approximately 9 months and follows the regular Wayzata school district calendar. Classes will be held from 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012 through 19<sup>th</sup> May 2013. A detailed week-by-week calendar for the entire academic year will be provided on the first class to all students and parents.
2. **CLASSES AND SCHEDULE:** HATS offers classes in both Dharma and Language(s) for a total duration of 120 minutes, once a week. The **Dharma classes for children are mandatory**, whereas the **language classes are optional**. You cannot register for language classes unless registered for the Dharma class. Classes will be offered weekly **Sunday mornings (10:00AM-12 Noon) and afternoon (12:15 PM to 2:15 PM)**. Please see Tables I & II below for the weekly school schedule. **NOTE: It is permissible for students to combine morning and afternoon session classes. Please say so clearly in the registration form.**

**TABLE 1 (HATS CLASS SCHEDULE – MORNING SESSION)**

<b>TIME SLOT</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>
10:00 AM– 10: 15 AM	Assembly Prayer and, Announcements
10:15-10:20 AM	Student Dispersal to Dharma Class
10:20 AM – 11: 15 AM	Dharma Class (includes snack time for lower grades)
11:15 AM-11:20 AM	Transition of Students from Dharma Class to Language
11:20 AM – 12:00 Noon	Language class
10:30AM – 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

**TABLE 2 (HATS CLASS SCHEDULE – AFTERNOON SESSION)**

<b>TIME SLOT</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>
12:15 PM to 12:30 PM	Assembly Prayer and, Announcements
12:30 PM to 12:35 PM	Student Dispersal to Dharma Class
12:35 PM to 1:30 PM	Dharma Class (includes snack time for lower grades)
1:30 PM to 1:35 PM	Transition of Students from Dharma Class to Language
1:35 PM to 2:15 PM	Language class
12:35 PM to 2:00 PM	Meditation, Sanskrit / Hindu Dharma class for adults

\* Families are welcome to come before school and purchase lunch offered at noon every Sunday

3. **PARENTS RESPONSIBILITY:** 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 closed around Diwali, Thanksgiving, New Year, Holi and Spring Break. Please refer to HATS calendar provided later for more details. The curriculum is designed for 30 teaching sessions in the whole year, including some cushion for unforeseen school closures. Too many closures (due to snowstorms, tornados etc.) will cause HATS to organize make up classes.
5. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Students are expected to attend 75% or more classes every year. Please do not send your child to HATS classes if he has fever, has thrown-up or has any other contagious illness. Guidelines in your regular school for keeping your child home apply in the case of HATS as well.
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, the child will be sent to a room designated as ‘childcare’ and will be released upon payment of a donation of \$10 to the Hindu Society of Minnesota. After having paid the fine for 3 times in an academic year, the parent may be asked to withdraw the child from HATS and no portion of the donation will be refunded.
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 ideally be notified in advance in such cases.
8. **SEVERE WEATHER CANCELLATIONS:** The HATS policy about cancellations will be explained on the inauguration day.
  - a. Closures are based on weather in the Maple Grove area only.
  - b. Parents should exercise their own discretion if HATS is open but the region around their own residence has bad weather conditions.
  - c. In general, HATS will be closed if it has snowed 4 inches the preceding night, if there is a tornado warning around the temple, if the roads around the temple are icy and so on.
  - d. Parents will be notified of any sudden closures via an email by **8:30 AM (Morning Session) or by 11:30 AM (Afternoon Session)**. A Facebook page may also be created and updated information on possible closures will be posted therein.
  - e. It may not be possible for HATS volunteers to call you personally regarding school closures.

f. In case of any doubt, parents should call the teachers of their children.

9. **SNACKS:** Parents can send snacks from home with their children. These snacks should be free of animal products like gelatin (e.g. Marshmallows), eggs (e.g., cup-cakes) and should not be very sugary or oily. The snacks should healthy and wholesome, like fruit, crackers, nutritional bars etc.

### **ABOUT THE DHARMA CURRICULUM:**

1. 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.
2. The classes will cover different aspects of Hindu Dharma, including spiritual practices such as Yoga, in an age appropriate manner.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. The medium of instruction in the Dharma classes will be English although students will be encouraged to learn spiritual vocabulary from sacred Hindu languages such as Sanskrit and Tamil.

A brief summary of the Dharma curriculum followed is given in Table 3 below. For details, contact [vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com](mailto:vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com)

**TABLE 3: HATS DHARMA CURRICULUM**

<i>No</i>	<i>Name of the Curriculum</i>	<i>School Grade</i>
1	Satyam Shivam Sundaram (the Forms of Bhagawan)	KG
2	The ABC of Dharma	1
3	Panchatantra and Puranas	2
4	The Ramayana	3
5	The Bhagavata and Shiva Puranas	4
6	The Mahabharata	5
7	Hindu Idols and Ideals	6
8	History and Geography of Hindu Dharma	7
9	The Basics of Hindu Dharma	8
10	Introduction to the Bhagavad Gita – The Ways of Reaching God	9
11	Hindu Art, Religious Ceremonies and Festivals	10
12	God in Hindu Dharma	11
13	The Sacred Scriptures of Hindus	12
14	The Heart of Hindu Dharma	College Students, Adults
15	Other Adult Classes (Gita, Upanishads etc.)	Adults

### **ABOUT THE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM:**

1. HATS is offering the following seven languages to students this year: Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, 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. The **Dharma classes are mandatory** but the language classes are optional. You cannot register your child for the language class unless he/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., if both parents are not Hindus but want their kids 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. However, if there are non-Hindu students in a language class, there will be no content related to Dharma in that class (or the non-Hindu students will be exempted from the religious content of the 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.
10. If a language class has multiple levels due to high enrolment and differences in the linguistic proficiency of the students, the teachers will have the final authority in placing the students in their appropriate level.
11. There is no pre-requisite for learning any language except for Adult Sanskrit wherein the students must be proficient in the Devanagari Script (used for Hindi, Marathi, Konkani, Nepali, Dogri and for Sanskrit).

### **COURSES BEING OFFERED IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2012-2013:**

**TABLE 4: COURSE OFFERINGS**

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Morning Session</b>	<b>Afternoon Session</b>	<b>Regular School Grade</b>
<i>Language: Hindi Levels A, B, C</i>	X	X	N/A
<i>Language: Hindi Level D, E</i>	X		N/A
<i>Language: Gujarati Levels A, B, C</i>	X		N/A
<i>Language: Kannada</i>	X		N/A
<i>Language: Malayalam</i>		X	N/A
<i>Language: Marathi</i>	X	X	N/A
<i>Language: Telugu</i>	X	X	N/A
<i>Language: Tamil</i>	X		N/A
<i>Language: Sanskrit / Dharma: Basics of Hindu Dharma</i>		X	Adult
<i>Bhagavad Gita and other Vedantic topics</i>	X		Adult
<i>Dharma Grade KG (Satyam Shivam Sundaram)</i>	X	X	KG
<i>Dharma Grade 1 (ABC of Hindu Dharma)</i>	X	X	1
<i>Dharma Grade 2 (The Ramayana)</i>	X	X	2
<i>Dharma Grade 3 (Shiva and Bhagavatam Puranas)</i>	X	X	3
<i>Dharma Grades 4-5 (The Mahabharata)</i>	X	X	4-5
<i>Dharma Grade 6-7 (Hindu Idols and Ideals)</i>	X	X	6-7
<i>Dharma Grades 8-9 (History and Geography of Hindu Dharma)</i>	X		8-9
<i>Jainism</i>	X		All grades
<i>Meditation (Dhyana Yoga)</i>	X	X	Adult
<i>Yoga-Asanas</i>	TBD	TBD	Adult

**NOTE:** Adult classes are free although there may be optional class materials for purchase.

### **INTENDED AUDIENCE & DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS IN HATS:**

1. The school is primarily aimed at children and teenagers in the age group between 5-18 years.
2. **Students should be in Kindergarten or higher grades for the Dharma class, and in Grade I or above of their regular school for admission to the language class.**
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. Students in grade X and up also have the option of teaching as volunteers with adult teachers. In some cases, we will allow grade IX students also to volunteer.
6. The school is open to both Hindus and non-Hindus alike.

### **SUGGESTED DONATION:**

1. **The donation amount for the year 2012-2013 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.**
2. The money shall be paid through a check in favor of "*Hindu Society of Minnesota*" (HSM). Credit card payments are not acceptable for HATS Dharma/Language classes.
3. **A Family with more than two children is required to donate for a minimum of the two highest paying children.** However, voluntary donations of any amount to HSM towards other sibling 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 disadvantaged 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 although there may be a material fee for any study materials.

### **REFUND POLICY:**

1. The entire amount of tuition paid is refundable only if you choose to withdraw your child by the day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> session to withdraw with full refund.
4. No refunds are permitted for withdrawals after the 4<sup>th</sup> 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. If there is no spot available in your preferred session (morning or afternoon), you will be advised to move your child to the other session. We will make all attempts to have siblings attend HATS in the same session. Continuing students get a preference for enrolment in their current session for the next year as well. i.e. Morning students get a preference for morning enrolment, and afternoon students get a preference for enrolment in the afternoon session.
5. The tuition checks of students not admitted will be shredded after a month of the first day of the school. Upon your permission, we can also return the check. During that period, they will be waitlisted.
6. HATS reserves the right to deregister students if they or parents/guardians cause a disruption in the smooth functioning of the school.
7. Please direct all your admission related queries to the Admissions Coordinator. For this year, the admissions coordinator is **Mumta Gosain** ([mumta@comcast.net](mailto:mumta@comcast.net)) who is assisted by Raj Iragavarapu ([raj.iragavarapu@gmail.com](mailto:raj.iragavarapu@gmail.com)) and Vishal Agarwal ([vishalsagarwal@yahoo.com](mailto: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 5 years or younger should be present in the classroom with their child if requested by the teacher.
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.
7. Parental involvement in classrooms for **language classes** is highly encouraged.



*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 our clan are available for help.  
Only the Dharma that we have 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 you words with friendliness. || 3 ||*  
**Atharva Veda 3.30.2-3**





## HATS REGISTRATION FORM (2012-2013)

**NOTE: USE 1 FORM PER FAMILY**

**A. INFORMATION ON PARENTS:**

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel. No(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell No(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred session of DHARMA Class (circle one):    MORNING (at 10:20AM)    AFTERNOON (12:35AM)

Preferred session of LANGUAGE Class (circle one): MORNING (at 12:35 PM)    AFTERNOON(1:35PM)

**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 (circle one)</i>	M / F	M / F	M / F
<i>Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)</i>			
<i>Grade in regular school (as of Sept 2012)</i>			
<i>Language for Language class(optional): Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi, Telugu, Kannada, Gujarati</i>			
<i>Currently enrolled in HATS?</i>	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
<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>			

**MAIL FORMS AND CHECKS TO:** Vishal Agarwal, 18583 – 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave N, Maple Grove, MN 55311.  
Checks should be payable to the 'Hindu Society of Minnesota.'

## **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: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***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 within 10 minutes of my child's last class. If I am late for 3 or more times, my child(ren) may be de-registered without any refund of the donation to the Temple.
- If I am more than 5 minutes late for the HATS Assembly, I will give a donation of \$1 and enter the auditorium quietly.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of the Parent (Name in brackets)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_