

Visit to Shree Ganesh Temple of Chicago

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Abstract: In THEO 299, we are tasked with visiting a religious site of one of the corresponding religions we studied this semester. We are meant to interview members of the religious community and hear their experiences as members of said community.

Reflection: Having grown up in Roger's Park and passing through Devon frequently throughout my life, I thought it very enlightening to engage in a community that I had otherwise not paid much attention to. The community was vibrant, welcoming, and helped me understand Hindu culture in a local context. It was a unique experience that shaped my understanding of the community I have grown up in, and that Loyola is a part of.

Introduction: The purpose of this project is to not only gain unique insight into the religious communities we learned about, but also to practice Ignatian values of reflection when we visit the religious site.

Discussion: I had the unique privilege of visiting the Shree Ganesh Temple of Chicago and interviewing a few members of the local Hindu community, who will be kept anonymous for privacy, and learning from their experiences in that community. It was interesting to see what they enjoyed about their culture and its practices.



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Right: A picture from inside the Shree Ganesh Temple of Chicago, showing an idol of Ganesh.

