

## AN 380 02 / RL 353 01: **Buddhism**

Spring Term, 2001: Tuesday, Thursday 9:35 – 10:50 am, JH 238

Instructor: Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.

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This course is an introduction to the philosophical/religious concepts and cultural practices of Buddhism in South and East Asia from religious, historical, and anthropological perspectives. Topics to be covered include: the development of Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana (Tibetan) Buddhist thought and practices; Buddhism and gender; Buddhist ethics, non-violence, and political practices; and contemporary Buddhist practices.

The anthropological perspective is largely a “bottom-up,” comparative examination of particular social processes, and is presented in the form of ethnographic monographs and articles that describe everyday life in detail. We will focus on the social and cultural implications of Buddhist ideas by thinking about questions such as: What is the perspective towards the world and society implied in the Buddhist religious tradition? How does this compare with Christian ideas of the self and our relation to other human beings and the natural world? How does Buddhism help us understand the place of human beings in the universe?

### **Course Readings**

Robinson, Richard H. and Willard L. Johnson 1996. *The Buddhist Religion: A Historical Introduction*. Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing Company. ISBN: 0534207189.

Rahula, Walpola 1986. *What the Buddha Taught*. New York: Grove Press. ISBN: 0802130313.

Paul, Diana Y. 1985. *Women in Buddhism: Images of the Feminine in the Mahayana Tradition*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN: 0520054288.

Tambiah, Stanley J. 1992. *Buddhism Betrayed?: Religion, Politics, and Violence in Sri Lanka*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 0226789500

### **Course Requirements**

The most important work in this course is to be prepared for each seminar meeting; this means having **thoroughly read the material** and **being prepared to discuss** particular points from the reading. Readings are due on the day listed in the class schedule. I will not lecture on the readings, but will discuss the implications and difficult points in the material.

#### **Response papers: 30%**

Each student will have to write five (5) response papers, one page and double-spaced. They are individually ungraded and require only timely submission for full credit. See the handout for more information.

**Short Essays or Term Paper: 50%**

Students will have a choice of writing two (2) short essays (between 5-7 pages) or one (1) longer essay (12-15 pages) that are **worth 50%** of the final grade. The shorter essays will be due on **20 February** and **10 April 2001** in class. The long essay is due in class on **19 April 2001**. Topics for the long essay will be selected by each student, but must be discussed with the instructor prior to **1 March 2001**.

**Class Participation: 20%**

Active participation requires that each student come to class prepared, having read the assigned material before class. Student involvement in seminar discussion is essential for the success of the class. In this class, I will lead discussion, and not lecture on the class material during the entire class period. Remember, there is no such thing as a dumb question or comment. A good strategy is to mark a part of the reading that you feel is important, unclear, or thought-provoking, and share the passage with the seminar.

“Plagiarism is the fraudulent misrepresentation of any part of another person’s work as one’s own. Submitting any writing, including take-home exams, that does not properly acknowledge the quoting or paraphrasing of another person’s words, or that fails to give proper credit for another person’s ideas, opinion, or theory is plagiarism. Any unacknowledged use of sources to which one is indebted including but not limited to are music, video, audio, theatre projects, compositions, and computer software constitutes plagiarism.” – Butler University Student Handbook 1999-2000, pg. 92.

It is the policy and practice of Butler University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Disability Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two weeks notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. If you have questions about Student Disability Services, you may wish to contact Michele Atterson, JH 136, ext. 9308.

Class Schedule (subject to modification)

16 January	Introduction to Class Film: In the Footsteps of the Buddha
18 January	Who was the Buddha? <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 1, 2 Dalai Lama article “Hope for the Future” Rahula, Chapter 1
23 January	<i>Dukkha</i> : The First Noble Truth <i>Samudaya</i> : The Second Noble Truth <b>Reading:</b> Rahula, Chapter 2, Chapter 3
25 January	<i>Nirodha</i> : The Third Noble Truth <i>Magga</i> : The Fourth Noble Truth <b>Reading:</b> Rahula, Chapter 4, Chapter 5
30 January	Religious implications of the Four Noble Truths <b>Reading:</b> Rahula, Chapter 6, 7 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
1 February	Therevada Buddhism <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 3
6 February	Therevada Buddhism in Southeast Asia <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 8
8 February	Mahayana Buddhism <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 4, 5
13 February	Mahayana Buddhism in East Asia <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 10 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
15 February	Tantric Buddhism <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson, Chapter 6, 7
20 February	Buddhism in the Himalayan Areas <b>Reading:</b> Chapter 9 <b>Assignment:</b> Short Essay Due
22 February	Buddhism and Gender
	Women as Temptress <b>Reading:</b> Paul Introduction, Chapter 1 (note: this is a long chapter)
27 February	Women as Mother, Women as Nun <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 2, 3
1 March	Women as Teachers of the Dharma <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 4 <b>Assignment:</b> Long Essay Proposal
6 March	Changing Gender <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 5 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
8 March	Women Bodhisattvas <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 6
12-16 March	Spring Break

20 March	Guanyin: Bodhisattva of Compassion <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 7
22 March	No Class: Prof. Lozada will be attending the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting
27 March	Buddhist Attitudes towards Women <b>Reading:</b> Paul Chapter 8, Conclusion <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
29 March	Buddhism in Practice <b>Reading:</b> Ken Jones article, Buddhism and Social Action Joanna Macy article, In Indra's Net Kaza selections
3 April	<b>Reading:</b> Tambiah Chapter 1 Sulak Sivaraksa article "Buddhism in a World of Change"
5 April	<b>Reading:</b> Tambiah Chapter 2, 3, 4
10 April	<b>Reading:</b> Tambiah Chapter 5, 6, 7 <b>Assignment:</b> Short Essay Due
12 April	<b>Reading:</b> Tambiah Chapter 8, 9, 10 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
17 April	<b>Reading:</b> Tambiah Chapter 11, 12, 13
19 April	<b>Reading:</b> Ecological Buddhism article <b>Assignment:</b> Long Essay Due
24 April	Buddhism in the West <b>Reading:</b> Robinson and Johnson Chapter 11
26 April	Last Day of Class: Class Wrap-up