Rel-5301-001-Foundations in Japanese Buddhism

Instructor: Shigenori Nagatomo
Place: AB606
Days and times of course meetings: R 2:00-4:30
Office address: Anderson 626
Instructor's office telephone: 204-1749
Instructor's e-mail address and website: snagatom@temple.edu; http://astro.temple.edu/~snagatom.

Guidelines about contacting the instructor: I will try to respond to your email in a timely manner if you have any serious question and concern about the course, but I will encourage you to talk to me in person before and after the class, or during my office hours.

Instructor's office hours: T, R 1:15 – 2:00, Anderson 626, or by appointment

Disability Statement: This course is open to all students who meet the academic requirements for participation. Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. Contact Disability Resources and Services at 215-204-1280 in 100 Ritter Annex to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Course Description:
This course is designed to prepare students to an in-depth study of Japanese Buddhism, covering several major Buddhist thinkers such as Kūkai, Dōgen, Shinran, and Takuan. In order to understand how Japanese Buddhism accepted Indian and Chinese Mahāyāna Buddhism, the course will trace some of the prominent conceptual frameworks of Mahāyāna Buddhism which were developed in India and China. The methodological orientation of the course is philosophical.

N.B.:
- Students who have had no previous exposure to Buddhism are strongly encouraged to glance through Walpola Rahula, What the Buddha Taught (New York, Grove Press, Inc., 1959).

Course Requirements:
The student is required to take two take-home examinations and make one presentation in class.
- A set of questions for the two take-home exams will be given two weeks prior to the due date.
- A topic for the class presentation must be approved in advance by the instructor. Each student is responsible for handing out an outline to the class before his/her presentation.

Course Goals and Methods:
Upon completing this class, students should be able to:

- Analyze arguments in our discipline
- Recognize and understand ideological bias in these arguments
- Construct your own arguments, using data/evidence appropriately

In this course, students learn by reading and reflecting on the assigned texts, listening thoughtfully to the instructor’s lectures, participating in class discussion, asking questions, and writing papers.

**Required Texts:**
Hisao Inagaki, *Kūkai’s Principle of Attaining Buddhahood with the Present Body* (Kyoto: Ryūkoku University, 1975).
Kakuan, "The Ten Ox-herding Pictures."
Kawai Hayao, *The Buddhist Priest: Myōe.*
Nagarjuna, selections from *Madyamikakarika*.
Takuan *Fudōchi shinmyōroku.*

**Tentative Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/30</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/6</td>
<td>Kakuan’s “The Ten Ox-Herding Pictures.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/13</td>
<td><em>The Heart Sutra.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/20</td>
<td><em>The Diamond Sutra.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Selections from Nagarjuna’s <em>Karika.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/4</td>
<td>The Consciousness-Only School.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>“The One-and-All Philosophy: Fa-Tsang of the Hua-Yen School.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/25</td>
<td>Dōgen, “Zazengi.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1</td>
<td>Shinran, <em>Tannishō.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/8</td>
<td>Takuan, <em>Fudōchi shinmyōroku.</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Suggested Readings:

Course Policies
This class meets once a week. Students can expect at least 10 hours of preparation (reading, reflecting, preparing for a class presentation, reviewing notes, etc.) per week.

- No incompletes will be given without a good reason.
- Late submission of paper will automatically mean a 10% reduction of its original value.
- Late arrival or early departure will be marked as equivalent to 1/3 of missing a class.
- Attendance will be taken at all classes.
- Bring the relevant reading material to class.
- You are expected to attend all classes fully prepared: complete the reading assignment for each class with written notes, and be ready to raise specific questions and discuss points about the assigned reading.
- If you encounter problem, don’t hesitate to discuss it with the instructor as soon as possible. Don’t wait too late!
- For other help: 1) with writing, make use of the Writing Center, 2) with personal confidence, go to Counseling Center (Sullivan Hall), 3) with complaints (fairness, grading, etc), see the instructor.
Policy on Religious Holidays: If you will be observing any religious holidays this semester which will prevent you from attending a regularly scheduled class or interfere with fulfilling any course requirement, your instructor will offer you an opportunity to make up the class or course requirement if you make arrangements by informing your instructor of the dates of your religious holidays within two weeks of the beginning of the semester (or three days before any holidays which fall within the first two weeks of class).

Policy on Cell Phones: Cell phones, pagers and beepers must be turned off during class except with special permission from your instructor.

Attendance Policy:
• If you miss three classes you will automatically fail the course. This policy is strictly observed.

Policy on Academic Honesty:
Temple University believes strongly in academic honesty and integrity. Plagiarism and academic cheating are, therefore, prohibited. Essential to intellectual growth is the development of independent thought and a respect for the thoughts of others. The prohibition against plagiarism and cheating is intended to foster this independence and respect.

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's labor, another person's ideas, another person's words, another person's assistance. Normally, all work done for courses -- papers, examinations, homework exercises, laboratory reports, oral presentations -- is expected to be the individual effort of the student presenting the work. Any assistance must be reported to the instructor. If the work has entailed consulting other resources -- journals, books, or other media -- these resources must be cited in a manner appropriate to the course. It is the instructor's responsibility to indicate the appropriate manner of citation. Everything used from other sources -- suggestions for organization of ideas, ideas themselves, or actual language -- must be cited. Failure to cite borrowed material constitutes plagiarism. Undocumented use of materials from the World Wide Web is plagiarism.

Academic cheating is, generally, the thwarting or breaking of the general rules of academic work or the specific rules of the individual courses. It includes falsifying data; submitting, without the instructor's approval, work in one course which was done for another; helping others to plagiarize or cheat from one's own or another's work; or actually doing the work of another person.

Students must assume that all requirements are to be completed individually unless otherwise noted in writing in this syllabus. I reserve the right to refer any cases of suspected plagiarism or cheating to the University Disciplinary Committee; I also reserve the right to assign a grade of "F" for the given paper, quiz or test.

Course Grade
The course grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Take-Home Exams</td>
<td>60%</td>
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Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92.5% and higher</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90.0 – 92.49%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87.5% - 89.99%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82.5% - 87.49%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% - 82.49%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77.5% - 79.99%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72.5% - 77.49%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% - 72.49%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67.5% - 69.99%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62.5% - 67.49%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 62.49%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.99% and lower</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>
Paper: There will be two take-home exams in this course, and they will count for a total of 60%.

- To learn how these exams will be assessed, see Paper Evaluation Sheet.
- The student must be submitted his/her written exam in hard copy in class on the due date indicated in the syllabus. Failure to submit by the deadline will constitute late submission.
- Late exam will be penalized 5 points for each day late.