

The College of the Humanities - Religion Program
RELI 2410A Introduction to Buddhism

Instructor: Prof. Angela Sumegi
Office: 2A53 PA Office hours: Tuesdays, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
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Lectures: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Location: 240 Tory TA: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general overview of the historical origins and development of Buddhist doctrine and practice. Through lectures as well as a range of multimedia materials students will be introduced to Buddhist beliefs, rituals, methods of meditation, and symbolism. The implications of the geographical expansion of Buddhism throughout Asia and into the west will also be a component of this introduction.

Course Aims/Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge of the Buddha, his life and teachings in their historical context.
2. Familiarity with the main phases and developments in Buddhist doctrine and practice, and an understanding of the differences between the major schools.
3. Knowledge of the history of Buddhism and the main social, cultural, and intellectual developments.
4. Knowledge of the geographical spread of Buddhism and how Buddhist ideas influenced, and were influenced by the cultures it encountered.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. *Buddhism—The eBook*, Fourth Edition. Charles S. Prebish and Damien Keown.

To access the text:

- a. go to **www.jbeonlinebooks.org**
- b. click on the picture for *Buddhism, the eBook*
- c. click on ‘the ‘Buy now’ link on the left

Please Note:

- In order for JBE Online eBooks to display properly you must use version 7 or greater of the free Acrobat Reader program.
2. Additional readings will be available online via cuLearn and the library ARES program.

COURSE EVALUATION:

1.	In-class exam (1.5 hrs)	Oct. 16	33.3%
2.	Term Paper (approx. 10 – 12 pages)	due Nov. 20 or Dec. 4	33.3%
3.	Final exam (2 hrs)	TBA	33.3%

The midterm and final exams will include a scantron-graded objective component, i.e. multiple choice and true/false questions. Students will be responsible for material covered in the course text, the manual, and the class lectures. Exams may be reviewed with the professor or TA during office hours. Exam results will be posted on cuLearn. Term papers will be returned in class or can be picked up from the Religion department.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

1. There are no grade-raising exams or assignments for this course. If you miss the midterm due to illness or family crisis, in order to be allowed to write a make-up exam, you must provide a letter signed by your doctor or minister or counsellor stating the reason for missing the exam.
2. If you miss the final exam, you are required to apply for a deferral from the University.
3. Term papers that are late without prior notice will be penalized 2% per day.

COURSE CALENDAR

The lectures generally follow the order of subjects presented in *Buddhism—The eBook*. Except for the first class, you are expected to read ahead in order to be prepared for the lecture. On cuLearn, you will find slides as well as primary source readings which will be identified for you each week.

Sept. 4 & 9	Introduction: the Indian Background to Buddhist Thought (p. 2-9)
Sept. 11 & 16	Karma and Cosmology (10-24)
Sept. 18 & 23	The Buddha (25-41)
Sept. 25 & 30	The Dharma (42-59)
Oct. 2 & 7	The Sangha (60-78)
Oct. 9 & 14	Developments in India (79-99)
Oct. 16	IN-CLASS MIDTERM EXAM (1.5 hours) <u>The exam covers material from Sept. 4th – Oct. 7th inclusive</u>
Oct. 21 & 23	Basic Features of Mahāyāna Buddhism (100-115)

Oct. 28 & 30 **NO CLASS – FALL BREAK**

Nov. 4 & 6 Compassion and Wisdom

Nov. 11 & 13 The practice of meditation (120-135)

Nov. 18 & 20 Two Approaches: Zen and Tantra

Nov. 25 & 27 Buddhism in the West (209-229)

Dec. 2 & 4 Catch-up and Review

ALL TERM PAPERS DUE IN CLASS ON DEC. 4TH.

TERM PAPERS SUBMITTED BY NOV. 20TH RETURNED IN CLASS ON DEC.4TH

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 8, 2014**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2015**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 7, 2014** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2015** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library