

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Winter 2006

06/01/03

Course Title: Religious Studies 313 L91 - Early Buddhism
Instructor: Leslie S. Kawamura
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Samples of Recommended Readings:

Rupert Gethin, *The Foundation of Buddhism* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1998).
Edward Conze. *Buddhism* (Oxford: Bruno Cassierer Ltd., 1957)
Bhikshu Sangharakshita, *A Survey of Buddhism* (India: The Indian Institute of World Culture, 1957)
Edward J. Thomas, *The Life of the Buddha* (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1960)
A.K.Warder, *Indian Buddhism* (India: Motilal Banarsidass, 1997)
Karen Armstrong, *Buddha* (NY: Viking Penguin, 2001) [New York Times Bestseller book]
and other books on Early Buddhism.

Course Description: Buddhist developments from Buddha to Mahāyāna

Course Objective: This course intends to introduce the early history of Buddhism from the time of the historical Śakyamuni Buddha to the development of early Buddhist schools and to explain various Buddhist terminologies and ideas. Although the course will be lecture oriented, the students are encouraged to ask questions at any time.

Pedagogical Objective: This course will focus on assisting the student to investigate the development of Buddhism in India from 500 BCE to 100 CE, the period in which the Buddhist tradition became established and in which various schisms arose. The course will enable the student to see the uniqueness of the early Buddhist traditions and similarities with other world religions. In researching and discussing a particular topic for the research paper, skill in scriptural interpretation will be developed.

Course Requirements: For a final grade in the course, the student will be expected to complete all components of the course that include a test, an outline and bibliography for a research paper, one major research paper, an in-class presentation of the paper, and attendance at all in-class presentations.

Research Paper:

Topic: Student should select a topic of choice in consultation with the instructor.
Length: Approximately 3,000 words (8-10 pages including footnotes and bibliography).
Format: Essay should be typed in 12 pitch (ie., the same size type as this outline), double spaced, with one inch margins.
Footnotes: Notes should be single spaced, appear at the bottom of each page, and be styled according to an approved style sheet for which, one should consult the instructor.

Notes can indicate source of information or be explanatory. When large portions of a book have been summarized, the note should indicate the paragraphs and pages from which the summary has been made. When direct quotations are taken from a book, the source and page number(s) should be clearly indicated. Sentences and ideas that are better suited for notes rather than being a part of the text should be relegated to the position of a footnote.

A note also should be meaningful. Often students place an author's name and a page number at the end of each paragraph in a paper. This is certainly an MLA style of notation used in the Sciences and in the Social Sciences, but when a paragraph contains many ideas leading up to the last sentence, such a notation is not meaningful at all. Does the reference refer to the contents of the last sentence? Or is the reference to the contents of the last two or more of the sentences? Or does the reference mean that the paragraph is a summary of the contents of the page indicated. It is up to the writer of the paper to insure that referent of the notation is clear to the reader. It is not up to the reader to figure out the extent and import of the notation.

Bibliography: Proper acknowledgement of a reference is done by indicating the author, title, location of the publication and the date of the book, chapter, or article. In cases when the web-site is used, the exact URL address is necessary and the date on which the text was down-loaded should be indicated.

Criteria of evaluation for Research Paper

A. Depth of Research: This includes a clear statement of a thesis or a theme, command of the subject matter under consideration, evidence of logical development, and either arguments for or against the thesis or theme.

B. Organization: This refers to clarity, logical connection and coherence of ideas, maintenance of the same theme, correctness of form regarding footnotes, bibliography, and grammar, and presentation of an argument rather than a simple description of an idea.

C. Original Thinking: This means to put forth and support one's own thesis. It should be noted that a series of quotations or a series of statements summarizing the contents of a paragraph or a chapter does not constitute a research paper.

D. Penalty: The grade will be reduced one letter grade (ie., B to B-) for every day that the paper is late. Papers should be submitted to either the instructor or the departmental secretary by 4:30 on or before the due date and should be date-stamped by the secretary.

E. Paper presentations and discussion

Presentations of a summary of the research papers will take place on April 3 and April 10.

On March 27 we will determine the order in which the papers will be presented. A sign up sheet will be available in class.

F. Participation in every and all presentations

Each student in this class will be expected to attend the presentations of research

papers given by other students. As a courtesy to other members of the class, the students who made their presentations earlier are requested to attend the presentations of others. The point about the presentation is to share ideas with each other as both a presenter and as a participant. An attendance sheet will be available after each day of the presentation. To obtain the 5 points, each and every presentation must be attended.

Test

There will be only one test ; consequently, the major portion of the class weight will be placed on the Outline, Paper, and Paper presentation and attendance.

ABSENCE FROM CLASSES AND TESTS

The University of Calgary does not have a policy on class attendance; however, if classes are missed, it will be the responsibility of the student to acquire information given in class from other members of the class. The instructor will not impart the information. Also, absence from a test will not be excused unless the student is ill (certified by a letter from the doctor) or if there has been a death in the family (certified by a copy of the burial permit).

Please note that email will be answered between 10 am and 4:30 pm during the weekdays only.

There will be **No Registrar scheduled Final Examination** in this course.

Test – March 27	35 points
Outline and Bibliography – Feb 13	05 points
Research Paper - due March 31	50 points
Paper Presentation – April 3 and 10	05 points
Attendance for all presentations	<u>05 points</u>
Total Points	100 points

Grading:

Grading will be based on an accumulation of points. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+	100- 96	A	95 – 92	A-	91 – 86
B+	85 – 81	B	80 – 77	B-	76 – 71
C+	70 – 65	C	64 – 62	C-	61 – 59
D+	58 – 55	D	54 – 50	F	49 – 0

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Intellectual Honesty:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity (see current University Calendar).

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense, the penalty for which is an **F** on the assignment and possibly also an **F** in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw.

The University Calendar states that "*plagiarism exists when:*

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),*
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,*
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or*
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."*

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

Withdrawing from courses:

Please note the information regarding withdrawals and fee refunds in the Academic Schedule of the current University Calendar.

Recording of lectures:

Recording any part of any lectures in any form must be first approved by the instructor in writing and is for individual private study only. See current Calendar, Tape recording of Lectures.

Academic Accommodation:

If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor **two weeks** before the scheduled date.

Gnosis:

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.