

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY — FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**Department of Religious Studies**  
**Religious Studies 313 L01: Early Buddhism**  
**Course Outline - Winter 2013, Tues-Thurs 9:30-10:45 a.m., SS 010**

(University of Calgary Policy about course outlines may be found from page 38 of the *University Calendar*)

James Apple, Ph.D.

Office: SS 1306

Office hours: T 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Or by appointment.

E-mail: [jbapple@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jbapple@ucalgary.ca)

Office phone: 403-220-8267

Dept Office/Phone: 403-220-5886

\*Religious Studies Department Office:

Social Sciences 1301

E-mail: [rels@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rels@ucalgary.ca)

**Required Texts**

Gethin, Rupert. (1998) *The Foundations of Buddhism*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Gethin, Rupert. (2008) *Sayings of the Buddha: New Translations from the Pali Nikayas*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Course Description:** This course focuses on the historical development of Early Buddhist formations (500 BCE to 100 CE), investigating their beginnings and transformation in India and other SE Asian cultures. The course begins by examining the historical and cultural context in which Early Buddhism began, first as represented in the life and teachings of Siddhārtha Gautama, and then followed by the socio-cultural institutions and religious practices that developed after his life. The course then examines the cosmological structures of Buddhist universes, the early socio-economic structure of Buddhist schools and institutions, including the relationships between monastic and lay communities, the oral/written transmission of texts, as well as the archaeology of Buddhist devotion that develops during the Mauryan period with the worship of stūpas, relics, and images. The course concludes with describing Buddhist developments in the northwestern borderlands (Gandhāra) and a discussion on the place of women in early Buddhism.

**Course Website:      **Blackboard****

Our course web site will list important announcements, electronic readings, important links to web pages, and downloadable documents.

**Course Requirements and Weighting:**

1. Regular attendance, preparation of reading assignments, and regular, wakeful participation in discussion.
2. Midterm examination, 30 points (30%).
3. Research paper, 30 points (30%).
4. Final examination, 40 points (40%).

**\* There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination in this course**

Schedule of Exams and Essays	Evaluation
1. Midterm in class on <b>Thursday, February 28.</b>	Midterm (30%)
2. Research paper due on <b>Thursday, April 4.</b>	Research paper (30%)
3. Comprehensive Final: <b>To Be Scheduled by the Registrar</b>	Final (40%)

**Missed Exams:** If you cannot write a test on the scheduled date due to a sudden illness or emergency, you must contact me or the Department office as soon as possible. To be allowed a rewrite of a test, you must provide proof of illness/emergency. Transfer of weight from a missed test or unwritten essay to another course requirement will not be allowed in this course. Without acceptable documentation (i.e. medical certificate, police report, bereavement notice, confirmation of religious observance, or court order) or without PRIOR arrangement with the instructor, missed assessments will receive an 'F'. This policy is intended to encourage diligence and integrity among students as well as to uphold principles of fairness and equality with respect to other students in the class. Excuses other than those listed above will receive little attention.

**To ensure academic honesty:** No student is allowed to leave the examination room until they have handed in their exam. No additional materials or technical aids are permitted at your desk during an exam.

**Grading:**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme (standardized within the Department of Religious Studies):

A+	100-96	A	95-90	A-	89-85
B+	84-80	B	79-75	B-	74-70
C+	69-65	C	64-60	C-	59-55
D+	54-53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

**Course Requirements explained:**

**1. Attendance and participation:** Regular attendance, preparation of reading assignments, and class participation are expected in a university-level class. These are not graded requirements, but obviously they will impact your performance in the course. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to ask a fellow student to lend you their notes.

Classroom sessions will consist of lectures on the scheduled subject matter related to the overall theoretical objective of the course. Students must prepare the material before each meeting and be ready to comprehend the topics to be covered. As much as possible the lectures attempt to complement the required readings or address related issues not treated extensively in the assigned books. During such sessions, students must have knowledge of the required readings. Participation in class thus plays a significant role in conducting lectures.

Given the nature of the lectures, and the fact that the examinations will test knowledge of material discussed in lectures as well as the readings, it cannot be overemphasized that attendance is necessary and to your advantage. Your attendance in class allows you to participate in and contribute to the class by raising questions and offering insights. More importantly, your attendance allows you to hear what specific points are being emphasized. Students are reminded that presence at lectures, participation in classroom discussion and projects, and the completion of assignments are important

components of most courses, and students will serve their interests best by regular attendance. Those who choose not to attend must assume whatever risks are involved.

**2. Midterm examination (30 points = 30%):** This will consist chiefly of short identification and essay questions, with the possibility of some objective questions, as well. Some time in the preceding class will be devoted to review. THE DATE OF THE MIDTERM IS **Thursday, February 28**.

**3. Final examination (40 points = 40%):** The format will be the same as for the midterm exam. The date of the final exam is **to be scheduled by the registrar**.

**4. Research Paper (between 1800 to 3500 words) worth 30%** of the final course grade, is due on **Thursday, April 4 at the beginning of class**. The requirement is an essay reflecting detailed research and critical reflection on a specific topic pertaining to Early Buddhism in South Asia or Southeast Asia. Paper topics are open: you are free to choose any topic within Early Buddhist developments (specific texts, practices, and historical figures work best). **PAPER PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS AND POSTED ON THE BLACKBOARD COURSE SITE**. Late papers will be penalized 10% of the value of the assignment **for each day the paper is late**. If you have any questions please contact me immediately.

**Recording of the lectures** is not permitted, except by special permission (see Tape Recording of Lectures, *University of Calgary Calendar*).

**E-mail policy:** E-mails will be responded to within 24 hours during weekdays. I do not reply to email messages that are poorly written, unclear or disrespectful.

**Academic Honesty:** *Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contributions of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarisms on any assignments or examinations are regarded as extremely serious academic offenses. Students are advised to consult pp 48-51 of the University Calendar which provides a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.*

**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 403-220-8237. 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. (DRC web address is: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/Others/DRC/>.)

### **Blackboard Help**

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/online-services/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQ's about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>. Instructions for using the Digital Drop Box are available here: [http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6\\_1/student/bbbs\\_r6\\_1\\_student/digital\\_drop\\_box.htm](http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6_1/student/bbbs_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm).

### **Gnosis**

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

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

**Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See

[www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

**Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

**Safewalk**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.

**Tentative Lecture and Reading Schedule:**

This outline is subject to change. It may be modified if it appears to the instructor that the material is not being adequately covered in the allotted time. The amount of time devoted to particular topics is contingent on the instructor's sense of what deserves greater emphasis as the course progresses.

**Remember, to be aware of changes occurring in the schedule and to receive any crucial information regarding the course, regular attendance in class is necessary.** The instructor is not responsible for accommodating those with unexcused absences. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to ask a fellow student to lend you their notes. In addition, important materials are regularly handed out during class. The instructor is not responsible for providing handouts at a later date for those with an unexcused absence from class. Keep in mind that all lectures in class constitute material that may appear on the final examination. Remember, too, that it is not possible for the instructor to explain all the material contained in the readings—it is up to students to be familiar with the readings regardless of the extent to which the assigned texts are discussed in class.

**Tentative Lecture and Reading Schedule:**

Jan. 8- 17	<p>Introduction: the Buddha Monolith</p> <p>The Context: Vedas, Upaniṣads</p> <p>The Life of the Buddha</p>	<p>Tuesday: Introduction to the Course</p> <p>Thursday : <b>[Blackboard]</b>: Hallisey and Reynolds: “Buddhist Religion, Culture, and Civilization.” (excerpt); <b>Foundations of Buddhism (=Foundations)</b> (Gethin 1998): 1-6; <b>Sayings of the Buddha (=Sayings):</b> xiii-xxxii</p> <p>Tuesday: <b>Foundations:</b> 7-16; Strong: 1-24 <b>Foundations:</b> 16-34;; <b>Sayings 173-194</b> (<i>‘The Dialogue with Prince Bodhi’</i>); ‘A Sketch of the Buddha’s Life’ (<a href="#">LINK</a>)</p> <p>Thursday: <b>Foundations:</b> 35-39; Reread <b>Sayings xvii-xviii</b>; Strong: 24-33;Strong: 45-50; Optional: <b>Sayings 37-97</b> (<i>The Buddha’s Final Nibbana</i>)</p>
Jan. 22-24	Handling Snakes	<p><b>T: Foundations:</b> 59-68;. <b>Sayings 156-167</b> (<i>The Simile of the Snake</i>); <b>Sayings 168-172</b> (<i>The Short Dialogue with Māluṅkya</i>);</p> <p><b>Th</b>; Review <b>Foundations:</b> 59-68; <b>Sayings 251-256</b> (<i>Kesaputta</i>)</p>
Jan. 29-31	<p>The Cosmos</p> <p>Nobles’ Four Truths</p> <p>Suffering</p>	<p><b>T: Foundations:</b> 112-132 (“The Buddhist Cosmos”). Strong: 36-42; <b>Sayings 116-128</b> (<i>The Origin of Things</i>)</p> <p><b>Th</b>: Review <b>Foundations:</b> 59-68; <b>Sayings 243-246</b> (<i>Turning the Wheel of Truth</i>); <b>Sayings 210-216</b> (<i>Nidāna-vagga</i>); <i>Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta: The Discourse on Setting the Wheel of Dhamma in Motion</i> (<a href="#">LINK</a>)</p>
Feb. 5-7	Suffering	<p><b>T</b>;; Review <b>Foundations:</b> 59-68; Strong: 99-107</p> <p><b>Th</b>: Strong: 108-113; <b>Sayings 216-222</b> (<i>Khandha-vagga</i>); optional ‘The Five Aggregates A Study Guide’ (<a href="#">LINK</a>)</p>
Feb.12-14	<p>Origins and Cessation</p> <p>The Way Beyond Suffering</p> <p>Eliminating Ignorance</p>	<p><b>T: Foundations:</b> 68-79; 79-84; <b>Sayings 195-204</b> (<i>The Analysis of Acts</i>)</p> <p><b>Th: Foundations:</b> 133-163 (“No Self”); optional “The Anattalakkhana Sutta” (<a href="#">LINK</a>)</p> <p><b>[Blackboard]</b>: “Mereology Packet”</p>
Feb 17- Feb 24	Reading Week: No Lectures	
Feb.26-Feb.28	<p>On Analysis</p> <p>Structure of the Way</p> <p>Meditation theory</p>	<p><b>T</b>: Gethin: 163-201 (“The Buddhist Path”);</p> <p><b>Th</b>: <b>***Mid-term Exam February 28***</b></p>

March 5-7	Buddhist Schools and Institutions	<p><b>T: Foundations:</b> 85-111 (“The Buddhist Community”).</p> <p>Th: <b>Foundations:</b> 85-111</p>
March 12- March 14	<p>Relationships between Monastic and Lay Communities</p> <p>Monastic Institutions</p>	<p><b>T:</b> Relationships between Monastic and Lay Communities:  <b>[Blackboard]</b> (Buddhist Religions 32-37, DIV 135-142 [<i>Brāhmaṇadārikā</i>] and 161-175[<i>Nagarāvalambikā</i>])</p> <p><b>Th:</b> Monastic Institutions  <b>[Blackboard]</b> (Buddhist Religions 45-58, DIV 177-221 [<i>Supriya</i>]; Lamotte, <i>History of Indian Buddhism</i>, 53-65, Gregory Schopen, <i>Bones, Stones, and Buddhist Monks</i>, 23-55)</p>
March 19- March 21	<p><b>Buddhist Languages, Literature and Mainstream Schools</b></p> <p>Oral/Written Transmission of Texts  Councils and Sectarian Debates</p>	<p><b>T:</b> Oral/Written Transmission of Texts  <b>[Blackboard]</b> (Buddhist Religions 312-315; DIV 333-371 [<i>Śukapota</i> and <i>Māndhātā</i>]; K.R. Norman, “Buddhism and Oral Tradition” 41-57), Skilling, “Redaction, recitation, writing” 53-75)</p> <p><b>Th:</b> Councils and Sectarian Debates  <b>[Blackboard]</b> (Buddhist Religions 62-67,; DIV 289-328 [<i>Svāgata</i> and <i>Sūkarika</i>]; optional: Lamotte, <i>History of Indian Buddhism</i>, 517-593)</p>
March 26- March 28	<p><b>Growth of Buddhism; Archeology of Buddhist Devotion</b></p> <p>Mauryan India and the Legacy of Aśoka  Stūpas, Relics, and Images</p>	<p><b>T:</b> Mauryan India and the Legacy of Aśoka  <b>[Blackboard]:</b> Buddhist Religions 58-62, DIV 223-252, Thapar, “A translation of the edicts of Aśoka” 250-266; optional: Lamotte, <i>History of Indian Buddhism</i>, 213-260, K.R. Norman, “Buddhism and Aśoka”)</p> <p><b>Th:</b> Stūpas, Relics, and Images  <b>[Blackboard]:</b> Buddhist Religions 72-84, DIV 119-133[<i>Maitreya</i>], 151-159 [<i>Indrabrahmaṇa</i>], 253-287 [<i>Prātihārya</i>], Willis, “Relics of the Buddha: Body, Essence, Text, 41-51; optional: Lamotte, <i>History of Indian Buddhism</i>, 310-330, Schopen, <i>Bones, Stones, and Buddhist Monks</i>, 86-98)</p>
April 2-4	<p><b>Buddhist Centers in the Northwestern Borderlands</b></p> <p><b>*Papers due Thursday, April 4 *</b></p>	<p><b>T:</b> Gandhāran Buddhism ( <b>[Blackboard]</b>Richard Salomon,<i>Ancient Buddhist Scrolls from Gandhāra</i>, 3-13, 165-182, Neelis, “India,Northwest” in <i>Encyclopedia of Buddhism</i>)</p> <p><b>Th:</b> <b>[Blackboard]:</b> Dietz, “Buddhism in Gandhāra,” 49-74.</p>

<p>April 9-11</p> <p>April 16</p>	<p>Position of Women in Early Buddhism</p>	<p><b>T: [Blackboard]</b> Text: Harvey pp. 221-224</p> <p><b>[Blackboard]:</b>Allan Sponberg (1992) "Attitudes toward Women and the Feminine in Early Buddhism" in Jose Cabezon (ed.) <i>Buddhism, Sexuality and Gender</i>, State University of New York Press, pp. 3-35.</p> <p><b>Th: [Blackboard]</b> Elizabeth Wilson (1995) "The female body as a source of horror and insight in post-Ashokan Indian Buddhism" in J. Law (ed.) <i>Religious Reflections on the Human Body</i>, Indiana University Press, pp. 76-99.</p>
<p>TBA</p>	<p>Registrar Scheduled Final Exam</p>	