

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

COURSE OUTLINE FALL 2015

Course: Religious Studies 329 LEC 1: Buddhism in East Asia

Class Time: TR 14:00 - 15:15

Instructor: Chien Y. Hsu

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Telephone: 403-220-5612

Office Hours: TR 1:00~2:00 pm or by appointment

Required Textbooks

Paul Williams. *Mahāyāna Buddhism, The Doctrinal Foundation*. 2nd edition. London: Routledge, 2009.

Additional short readings will be posted on Desire2Learn (D2L).

Course Description

This course will acquaint students with the beliefs and practices of Buddhism in China, Korea and Japan. In this course, students will examine the cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts of these traditions through lectures, and assigned readings.

Core Competencies

This course provides students the opportunity to develop a wide range of critical and practical skills necessary for reflective thinking, communication of ideas, and ethical reasoning. Over and above gaining an understanding of Buddhism of China, Korea and Japan, this course challenges students to reflect upon and assess how we and those we study organize, live in, and relate to Buddhism in East Asia. It challenges students to identify and to call into question the presuppositions, central concepts, agendas, and cultural biases of both the scholar and the subjects of our inquiry. The analytical and self-reflective skills emphasized in this course will find application in the bulk of courses offered at the university as well as in life outside the academic setting.

Course Requirements

I. Tests

Students will write **two tests** (midterm and registrar-scheduled final exam) **each worth 30%** of the final grade. The midterm will be 75 minutes and held on October 13. The final exam will be held on the day scheduled by the registrar. The tests are not cumulative. Students will be tested on their understanding of the key concepts presented in the texts, lectures, or films. The format of the exams consists of two sections. In section A (40%), participants must correctly define 10 key terms.

In section B (60%), students must provide a brief answer (3~4 paragraph) to each of the four short essay questions given on the test.

II Short Research Paper

- (a) A short **research paper** of not more than 2,500 words (6-8 pages, double-spaced, including bibliography and notes) should be submitted at the final day of the class (December 8). The short research paper is **worth 30%** of the final grade.
- (b) **Outline** to indicate contents, methodology, and proposed Bibliography of the research paper should be submitted on November 5, 2015 and is **worth 10%** of the final grade.
- (c) The students should consult a reference book on how to compose a research paper before attempting to write the paper. The Chicago Manual of Style is highly recommended.
- (d) Other details of the research paper will be announced and discussed in the class.

Grading Scale

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Letter	GPA	Percentage	Description From Calendar
A+	4.0	96-100	<i>Excellent</i> – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.
A		90-95	
A-	3.7	85-89	
B+	3.3	80-84	<i>Good</i> – clearly above average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B	3.0	75-79	
B-	2.7	70-74	
C+	2.3	65-69	<i>Satisfactory</i> – basic understanding of the subject matter.
C	2.0	60-64	
C-	1.7	55-59	
D+	1.3	53-54	<i>Minimum Pass</i> – marginal performance, generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in same subject.
D	1.0	50-52	
F	0	Under 50	<i>Fail</i> – unsatisfactory performance or failure to complete assignments.

Policy Regarding Missed Requirements

Tests and deadline of the research paper are firm. Without acceptable documentation (i.e. a medical or counsellor's certificate, police report, bereavement notice, confirmation of religious observance, or court summons) missed requirements will be awarded an "F".

This policy is intended to encourage diligence and integrity on the part of each student as well as to uphold the principles of fairness and equality with respect to other students in the class.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Although there is no formal policy for class attendance, students are encouraged to attend all classes in order to take full advantage of the course. Students should respect the instructor and other students in the class.

Electronic Device Policy:

Laptops are allowed to be used in the class but not any type of cell phones.

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

References and Bibliography:

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html. Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, librarian staff or the Chicago manual of style.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

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>.

Classics Student Society

Classics Student Society is the Greek and Roman Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: classsoc@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://grst.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/classics-students-society>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at ascarts@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 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 for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at 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. 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.