1. ASCRC General Education Form

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<th>Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dept/Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course #</td>
<td>232</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
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<td>Credits</td>
<td>3</td>
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II. Endorsement/Approvals

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<tr>
<th>Please type / print name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Bradley Clough</td>
<td>9/12/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone / Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bradley.clough@mso.umt.edu">bradley.clough@mso.umt.edu</a></td>
<td>9/12/08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Chair</td>
<td>Stewart Justman</td>
<td>9/17/08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Gerald Fetz</td>
<td>9-22-08</td>
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III. Description and purpose of the course: General Education courses must be introductory and foundational. They must emphasize breadth, context, and connectedness, and relate course content to students’ future lives. See: assemble.

http://www.umt.edu/faculty senate /assembly/Docassemble_final.htm

The main purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the basic categories of philosophy and practice in Buddhism, a pan-Asian religious tradition of remarkable diversity and expansive geographical and chronological scope. While the course will always maintain an historical perspective, in order to provide us with a framework for understanding Buddhist developments in their cultural and temporal contexts, the course will be structured mainly along thematic lines, according to the traditional concepts of the “Three Jewels or Refuges”: Buddha (awakened being, exemplar, teacher); Dharma (teachings, doctrine); and Sangha (community), and the “Three Trainings”: Sila (ethics, morality, virtue); Samadhi (meditation, contemplation); and Prajna (wisdom, transformative insight). Following this structure, we will closely read primary sources (in translation) and secondary studies, in order to explore how Buddhists, from ancient to modern times, have viewed the world and lived their lives in the cultural settings of South and Southeast Asia (Theravada Buddhism), East Asia (Mahayana Buddhism), and the Tibetan and Himalayan regions of Asia (Tantric or Vajrayana Buddhism). Gaining such knowledge will prepare students well to be future “global citizens,” as they will have gained an in-depth understanding of one of the world’s most enduring and influential cultural traditions.

IV. Criteria: Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group. See: http://www.umt.edu/faculty senate/ASCRCX/Adocuments/Criteria.1-08.htm

Students will study Buddhism with an eye towards its major developments and their causes and consequences. All the materials covered in the class will be deeply contextualized with regard to the historical factors (political, social, and economic) that influenced and were influenced by these
materials. As the course description indicates, a variety of methodological approaches will be taken, with perhaps the two main approaches being historiographical and close critical/analytical readings of texts.

| V. Student Learning Goals briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals. [See: http://www.uic.edu/tac/graduate/ASC/GPA/departments/GE_Criteria-100K.htm] |
|---|---|
| As indicated above, we will: a) look at the major developments in Buddhist history with a special eye towards their causes and consequences; b) engage in close critical/analytical readings of major Buddhist “texts” (scriptures and art), always taking time to contextualize them in terms of influential political, social, and economic factors; and c) investigate not only Buddhist texts to gain understandings of what Buddhists believe, but also examine central Buddhist practices to ascertain how Buddhists behave or conduct themselves in the world. |

| VII. Syllabus: Paste syllabus below or attach and send digital copy with form. [The syllabus should clearly describe how the above outcomes are satisfied.] For assistance on syllabus preparation see: http://teaching.uic.edu/ctl/standard-syllabus.html |
|---|---|
| Digital copy of the syllabus accompanies this form. |

*Please note: As an instructor of a general education course, you will be expected to provide sample assessment items and corresponding responses to the Assessment Advisory Committee.*
RS/LS 232
Buddhism
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:40-2:00
Gallagher Building 123

Bradley Clough  
Office: LA 158  
Office Phone: (406)-243-2827  
bradley.clough@mso.umt.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-4:30

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**Required Readings** (all are available for purchase at the campus bookstore):
Harvey, Peter. *An Introduction to Buddhist Ethics.*
Kohn, Sherab Chodzin. *The Awakened One.*
Piyananda, Bhante Walpola. *A Bodhi Tree Grows in L.A.*
Yeshe, Lama. *Introduction to Tantra: The Transformation of Desire.*

**Grading**
1. Class Preparation and Participation: completion of and reflection upon the reading assignment for the day, as well as consistent attendance and oral participation in regular discussions. No more than two absences will be accepted without written authorization from the Health Service or an advisor, counselor, or administrator. (20% of the final grade).
2. Two papers, each 6-7 pages in length. Topics will be assigned. (Each paper is worth 20% of the final grade, making the two equal 40% total).
3. Mid-Term and Final Exams (each is worth 20% of the final grade, making the two equal 40% total).
Class Meetings and Assignments

I. Buddha: Awakened One, Exemplar, Teacher, Savior

Tues. 8/26  Introduction to the Course

Thurs. 8/28  India in the Time of the Buddha
-handout: Trevor Ling, “North India in the Sixth Century BC” (from The Buddha: Buddhist Civilization in India and Ceylon)

Tues. 9/2  The Life of Siddhartha Gautama, Sakyamuni Buddha
-Kohn: Acknowledgement and Chapters 1-5

Thurs. 9/4  The Life of the Buddha (continued)
-Kohn: Chapters 6-9

Tues. 9/9  The Previous Lives of the Buddha
-selections from the Jatakas, stories of Buddha’s past lives

Thurs. 9/11  Buddhist Imagery I: Early Artistic Representations of the Buddha
-in-class visual presentation (no reading)

Tues. 9/16  Buddha as Supramundane Being
-Williams, pp. 1-13 and 16-20
-handout: Roger Corliss, “Birth of Buddhas” (from The Vision of Buddhism)

Thurs. 9/18  Buddhas and Their Pure Lands
-Williams: Chapter 10
-handout: The Smaller Sutra Displaying the Land of Bliss
-handout: The Lotus Sutra (chapters 3, 25, 25 and 28)

Tues. 9/23  Buddhist Imagery II: Later Artistic Icons of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
-in-class visual presentation (no reading)

II. Dharma: The Teachings of Wisdom, Ethics and Meditation

Thurs. 9/25  The Fundamental Teachings of Buddhist Philosophy
-Rahula: ix-xvi; chapter 3; and pp. 91-97
Tues. 9/30  The Varieties of Buddhist Meditation I and the Fundamental Teachings of Buddhist Philosophy (continued)
- Rahula: Chapters 2 and 6
- handout: "The Chariot Simile of Bhikkhu Nagasena" (from the Milindapanha)
- handout: Shinzen Young, "Buddhist Meditation" (from The Buddhist Religion)

**Evening Documentary Showing: "Doing Time, Doing Vipassana"**

Thurs. 10/2  The Fundamental Teachings of Buddhist Philosophy (continued)
- handout: Joseph Goldstein, "Dependent Origination" (from The Experience of Insight)
- handout: The Dalai Lama, "The Buddhist Worldview" and "Life Impelled by Ignorance" (from The Meaning of Life)
- handout: The Kaccayana Sutta

Tues. 10/7  The Fundamental Teachings of Buddhist Philosophy (continued)
- Rahula: Chapters 4 and 5
- handout: selections from Theravada Buddhism’s "Pali Canon"

Thurs 10/9  Reformation in Buddhist Thought: Mahayana Buddhism’s Prajna-Paramita ("Perfection of Wisdom") Literature
- Williams: pp. 13-16, 20-26, and chapter 2
- handout: The Hridaya ("Heart") Sutra
- handout: Geshe Rabten, commentary on the Heart Sutra

Tues. 10/14  The Systemization and Elucidation of "Perfection of Wisdom" Thought: Nagarjuna and the Madhyamaka School
- Williams: Chapter 3
- handout: Chapter 24 of Nagarjuna’s Mulamadhyamakakarikas

Thurs. 10/16  **Mid-Term Exam**

Tues. 10/21  Mahayana Buddhist Teachings on Mind and Buddha-Nature
- Williams: pp. 77-82, 86-92, 96-105, and 109-111
- Handout: selections from Cittamatra ("Mind-Only") or Yogacara ("Yoga Practice") and Tathagatagarbha ("Buddha-Womb") literature

Thurs. 10/23  Topics in Buddhist Ethics I: The Layperson’s Morality of Giving, the Five Precepts, Social Values, and Merit-Making
- Harvey: pp. 60-88 and 97-122
Tues. 10/28   The Varieties of Buddhist Mediation II: Zen and the Realization of Buddha-Nature  
-Suzuki: pp. 21-137

**Evening: Documentary Showing: “The Land of the Disappearing Buddha: Japan”**

Thurs. 10/30   Topics in Buddhist Ethics II: The Bodhisattva and the Way of Compassion  
-Santideva: *Bodhicaryavatara*, General Introduction and Chapters 1-5

**Fri. 10/31: First Papers Due by 5 PM**

Tues. 11/4   Election Day (no class)

Thurs. 11/6   Topics in Buddhist Ethics II: The Bodhisattva and the Way of Compassion (continued)  
-Santideva: *Bodhicaryavatara*, Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 10

Tues. 11/11  Veterans Day (no class)

Thurs 11/13  The Varieties of Buddhist Meditation III: Tantra and the Practice of “Diety Yoga”  
-Yeshe: Chapters 1-4 and 10-12

Tues. 11/18   Topics in Buddhist Ethics III: Buddhism, Non-Violence, and Peace-Making

III. Sangha: Community Life in the World

Thurs. 11/20   The Establishment of Monastic Buddhism and its Rules of Discipline  

Tues. 11/25   The American Buddhist Sangha: Lay Practitioners and their Monastic Guides  
-Piyananda: Introduction and Chapters 1-10

Tues. 12/2    The American Buddhist Sangha (continued)  
-Piyananda: Chapters 11-20

Thurs. 12/4   **Final Exam**

**Friday 12/12: Second Paper Due by 5 PM**