

BUDDHISM

Rel's U377-001 TR 2:00 – 3:15 Bobet 214B
Fall 2008

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OBJECTIVE: To acquaint the student with the history and varieties of Buddhism by examining primary Buddhist texts, beliefs and practices, and cultural expressions. It will be seen that Buddhism began as a nontheistic religious tradition emerging from an animistic context, which subsequently merged with various indigenous animistic traditions thereby gaining theistic expressions. Buddhism has taken various theistic and nontheistic forms and expressions, while perpetuating and developing the original Buddhist insights into human psychology.

TEXTS: Donald W. Mitchell, *Buddhism: Introducing the Buddhist Experience*, 2d ed. (Oxford University Press, 2008). MITCHELL

John S. Strong, ed., *The Experience of Buddhism: Sources and Interpretations*, 3rd ed. (Thomson/Wadsworth, 2008). STRONG

- T Aug. 26 Introductory Class
- R Aug. 28 The Textual Sources
MITCHELL: "The Three Baskets," 65-69.
STRONG: "The Dharma: Some Perspectives of Mainstream Buddhism," 97-99; "A Guide to the Transliteration and Pronunciation of Buddhist Terms," 366-69.
The Context of Early Buddhism
MITCHELL: "The Life of Gautama Buddha: Introduction," 9-11.
The Buddha's Early Life
MITCHELL: "The Early Life of Siddhartha Gautama," 11-15; "The Great Renunciation," 15-17.
STRONG: "The Life Story of the Buddha and Its Ramifications," 1-2; "Ananda Recounts the Birth of the Buddha," 7-9; "Signs of Suffering," 9-11; "The Great Departure: Two Versions," 11-17.
- T Sept. 2 The Buddha's Awakening
MITCHELL: "The Awakening of the Buddha," 17-20
STRONG: "Awakening Achieved," 17-24.
MOVIE CLIP: "Bodhi Gaya" (5 min.)
The Formation of the Sangha
MITCHELL: "The Mission of the Buddha," 20-27, 28-29.
STRONG: "The Experience of the Sangha," 56-63; "The Conversion of a Lynch Mob," 70-72; "Rites of Passage," 73-85; "Sangha Situations," 85-87; "The Community at Kitagiri," 89-91.
- R Sept. 4 The Buddha's Life and Context
MOVIE: "Life of Buddha" (1 hr.). Continued discussion.
- T Sept. 9 Women in the Sangha
MITCHELL: "Women's Ordination," 27-28.

STRONG: "The Acceptance of Women into the Order," 63-68; "The Conversion of Patacara," 68-70; "Walls Make Good Neighbors," 88-89.

End of the Buddha's Life

MITCHELL: "The Last Days of Gautama Buddha," 29-32.

STRONG: "The 'Death' and Parinirvana of the Buddha," 45-48; "The Distribution of the Relics," 48-50.

MOVIE CLIPS: "The Stupas" (2 min.); "Representations of the Buddha" (3 min.)

R Sept. 11

The Doctrines

GUEST SPEAKER: Chamtrul Rinpoche on the Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path

MITCHELL: "The Teachings of the Buddha," 33-64.

T Sept. 16

QUIZ #1

The Doctrines

STRONG: "Karma and the Six Realms of Rebirth," 38-42; "Realizing the Four Noble Truths," 42-45; "The Buddha's Silence," 104-05; "Channa Is Taught the Middle Way," 105-07;

"Interdependent Origination," 108-10; "The Cessation of Suffering," 114-15; "The Path," 120-23.

MOVIE CLIPS: Thich Nhat Hanh on "Karma," "Dharma," "Nirvana," "Impermanence" (15 min.)

R Sept. 18

TERM PAPER TOPIC MUST BE APPROVED BY INSTRUCTOR. 5 pts. deducted from the grade of the term paper if the topic is not approved by this date.

Meditation

STRONG: "Mindfulness," 128-32; "How to Meditate: Some Practical Advice," 132-34; "How to Walk on Water and Fly through Air," 134-36; "The Trance of Cessation," 136-38.

MOVIE CLIP: Thich Nhat Hanh on "Meditation" (3 min.)

Early Buddhist Schools

MITCHELL: "The Second and Third Councils," 69-70.

Buddhism and the State

MITCHELL: "King Asoka," 70-74.

STRONG: "Buddhism and the State: The King and the Community," 91-96.

T Sept. 23

QUIZ #2

Further Buddhist Teachings

MITCHELL: "The Abhidharma Schools," 134-38.

STRONG: "Milinda and the Chariot," 101-04; "Milinda Asks about Nirvana," 115-18; "The Attainment of Two Arhats," 118-19; "Doctrinal Issues," 138-44.

Jataka Tales

STRONG: "Remembering Past Lives," 24-36.

The Laity

STRONG: "Why Not Remain a Layperson? 123-24; "The Six Relationships for Laypersons," 124-26; "Making and Sharing Merit," 126-28.

R Sept. 25

QUIZ #3

Theravada Buddhism

MITCHELL: "Theravada's Path of Purification," 74-95.

MITCHELL: Mettanando Bhikku, "The Cultural Experience of Thai Buddhism Today," 95-101.

STRONG: "Buddhists and the Practice of Buddhism: Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia," 221-55.

T Sept. 30

Theravada Buddhism

MOVIE: "Footprints of the Buddha" (1 hr.) (DVD-000005)

R. Oct. 2

QUIZ #4

Review for Mid-Term

T Oct. 7

MID-TERM EXAM

- R Oct. 9 Origins of Mahayana Buddhism
 MITCHELL: "The Great Vehicle," 103-06; "The Mahayana Sutras," 106-19.
 STRONG: "The Dharma: Some Mahayana Perspectives," 145-46; "Preliminary: The Parable of the Burning House," 146-51; "Basic Perspectives: The Perfection of Wisdom," 151-56; "Philosophical Formulations," 156-57.
The Bodhisattva Ideal
 MITCHELL: "The Great Journey of the Bodhisattva," 119-23.
 STRONG: "The Bodhisattva Path," 173; "Kamalasila on the Necessity of Compassion," 173-75; "Santideva on Developing the Thought of Awakening," 175-78; "Aryasura on the Practice of the Perfections," 178-81; "The Skillful Means of Vimalakirti," 181-87.
- T Oct. 14 OFF – FALL BREAK
- R Oct. 16 No Class.
- [Oct. 17 – Mid-Term Grades Due.]
- T Oct. 21 **OUTLINE & BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR TERM PAPER MUST BE TURNED IN. 10 pts. will be deducted from the grade of the paper if these are turned in late.**
Savior Buddhas
 MITCHELL: "Celestial Bodhisattvas and Buddhas," 130-32.
 STRONG: "Saviors and Siddhas: The Mahayana Pantheon and Tantric Buddhism," 188; "Life Span of the Tathagata," 188-90; "Savior Bodhisattvas," 191; "Compassion of Avalokitesvara," 191-93; "Multiple Forms of Tara," 193-94; "Samantabhadra and the Reciters of the *Lotus Sutra*," 194-95; "Savior Texts," 196-97; "Savior Buddhas and Pure Lands," 197-98; "Amitabha and His Pure Land," 198-201; "Bhaisajyaguru," 201-03; "How to Be Reborn in Aksobhya's Land," 203-06.
- R Oct. 23 Mahayana Philosophical Schools
 MITCHELL: "The Madhyamika School," 139-46; "The Tathagata-garbha Literature," 146-49; "Yogacara School," 149-53.
 STRONG: "Nagarjuna: Verses on the Noble Truths and on Nirvana," 157-62; "The Ongoing Dialectic," 163-64; "Vasubandhu: Types of Consciousness," 164-69; "Queen Srimala Explains the Womb of the Tathagata," 169-71; "Sudhana's Vision of the Cosmos," 171-73.
- T Oct. 28 QUIZ #5
Development of Vajrayana
 MITCHELL: "Logic, Tantra, and the Extinction of Buddhism in India," 153-58.
 STRONG: "Tantric Buddhism, or the Vajrayana," 206-07; "Tantra against a Madhyamika Background," 207-08; "Perfection of Nonduality," 208-10; "Offering the World-Mandala to One's Guru," 210-12; "The Meditator Becomes the God," 212-16; "Songs of a Mad Saint," 216-19; "Story of the Yogini Manibhadra," 219-20.
- R Oct. 30 Buddhism in China
 MITCHELL: "The Chinese Experience of Buddhism," 197-43.
 STRONG: "Buddhists and the Practice of Buddhism: China," 290-314.
 MOVIE: "To the Land of Bliss" (47 min.)
- T Nov. 4 No Class
- R Nov. 6 GUEST SPEAKER: Dewain Belgard, Blue Iris Sangha, New Orleans, on Shen-hui (8th century China), the Platform Sutra, and Chan Buddhism.
- T Nov. 11 QUIZ #6
Buddhism in Japan
 MITCHELL: "The Japanese Experience of Buddhism," 275-321.

STRONG: "Buddhists and the Practice of Buddhism: Japan," 315-40.
SLIDESHOW: Buddhism in Japan

- R Nov. 13 QUIZ #7
Tibetan Buddhism
MITCHELL: "The Tibetan Experience of Buddhism," 160-194.
STRONG: "Buddhists and the Practice of Buddhism: The Tibetan Cultural Area," 257-89.
MOVIE: "The Dalai Lama, the Monasteries, and the People" (30 min.)
- T Nov. 18 GUEST SPEAKER: Michael Smith, on Vajrayana Buddhist preliminary practices.
- R Nov. 20 Tibetan Buddhism
MITCHELL: "Tibet," 337-40.
MOVIE: "Fields of the Senses" (35 min.): a visual reflection on the interdependence of farmers in a valley in Ladakh and the monks of the local monastery. Includes depiction of Tibetan Buddhist death rituals. Filmed in 1977.
Continued discussion of Tibetan Buddhism.
- T Nov. 25 QUIZ #8
Modern Buddhism in Asia
MITCHELL: "Modern Buddhism in Asia," 323-37, 340-54.
HAND-OUT: Karma Lekshe Tsomo, "Sakyadhita Pilgrimage in Asia: On the Trail of the Buddhist Women's Network," 102-16.
- R Nov. 27 OFF – THANKSGIVING
- T Dec. 2 Buddhism in the West
MITCHELL: "Buddhism in the West," 357-98.
STRONG: "Buddhists and the Practice of Buddhism: The West," 341-65.
- R Dec. 4 **TERM PAPER IS DUE. TURN IN 1 HARD COPY AND UPLOAD THE ELECTRONIC FILE TO THE BLACKBOARD DROPBOX TO BE COUNTED ON TIME. 10 pts. will be deducted from the grade of late papers.**
QUIZ #9
Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 11, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There will be two exams (75 pts. each), which will count as one-half of the final grade. The remaining one-half of the final grade will consist of a term paper (50 pts.) and 8 true-false quizzes (counting 5 pts. each for a total of 40 pts.), class discussion and attendance (30 pts.), and participation on the class discussion-board (30 pts.).

Exams

Each exam will consist of one discussion question counting 25 pts. and ten identifications counting five points each. Therefore, each exam counts a total of 75 pts.

There will be no make-up exams, except in the case of severe illness or a family emergency, in which case the instructor should be notified at once.

Quizzes

The quizzes will consist of 10 true-false statements counting 1/2 pt. each, so that each quiz is worth 5 pts. Eight quizzes are worth 40 pts. A total of 9 quizzes will be given during the semester.

There will be no make-up true-false quizzes. A total of 9 true-false quizzes will be given during the semester. At the end of the semester, the lowest true-false quiz score will be dropped. If you miss a class during which a true-false quiz was administered, that will be the quiz dropped at the end of the semester. If you miss more than one true-false quiz, your grade will be diminished accordingly.

For your convenience, the approximate dates for the quizzes are given on the syllabus. However, if these dates are changed by the instructor, you are responsible for being prepared to take the quiz, even if you missed the previous class in which the quiz date was announced.

Class Discussion

Students need to attend every class and are encouraged to participate in class discussion. Up to 30 pts. can be earned by participating regularly in class discussion. Regular attendance is part of the discussion grade.

Term Paper

The term paper will consist of 8-10 pages typewritten and double-spaced on a topic selected by the student that has been approved by the instructor.

The term paper topic must be approved by September 18 by the instructor. 5 pts. deducted from the grade of the term paper if the topic is not approved by this date.

October 21 is the deadline for turning in the bibliography and outline for the term paper. If the bibliography and outline are turned in late, 10 pts. will be deducted from the grade of the term paper.

Term papers are due December 4. Ten points will be deducted from the grade of late term papers. Turn in one hard copy of the term paper, and upload the electronic file to the digital drop box in Blackboard to be counted on time.

It is strongly recommended that you take your term paper to the Writing Across the Curriculum Lab in Bobet, and have one of the tutors read it and make suggestions for its improvement. See the Term Paper Check List for the criteria for a good term paper.

The term paper should contain no typographical errors or misspelled words. The grade of the term paper will be adversely affected if these are present.

Plagiarism

The student should note Loyola's policy on plagiarism in the Undergraduate Bulletin. A student who is found to have committed plagiarism in a term paper may be given a failing grade for that course. A second instance of plagiarism is grounds for dismissal from the university.

The Undergraduate Bulletin defines plagiarism as "the false assumption of authorship: the wrongful act of taking the product of another person's mind, and presenting it as one's own." "Plagiarism may take the form of repeating another's sentences as your own, adopting a particularly apt phrase as your own, paraphrasing someone else's argument as your own, or even presenting someone else's line of thinking in the development of a thesis as though it were your own."

Students should not copy sentences from a book directly into their term papers. The only exception is when such sentences are properly identified as quotations and the proper references are given. Direct quotations and extended block quotations should be a minimal part of your term paper. In writing the term paper for this or any other Loyola course, plagiarism should be carefully avoided.

Gender Inclusive Language

It is important that the student remember to use gender inclusive language when writing her or his term paper. The student should make the effort to use terms such as humans, human beings, persons, etc., in place of the generic "man." The grade of the term paper will be adversely affected by the use of sexist language.

Discussion Board

30 pts. may be earned by participating regularly on the class discussion-board. The instructor will post questions there for consideration and make announcements on the discussion board. Students should feel free to post their own questions, observations, and news items on the discussion-board. To participate fully on the discussion-board, students should log in and leave a message twice a week. The instructor will read the postings and note which ones indicate that the student is thinking deeply about the topics being studied in the class.

Policy on Laptops in the Classroom

It has become evident that with the introduction of wireless access to the Internet, laptops have been used as distractions in the classroom. Therefore, any student wishing to use a laptop to take notes must sit on the front row. If the instructor becomes aware that the student is using the laptop to surf the Web or check email, the student will lose the privilege of using the laptop in the classroom for the rest of the semester. Laptops must be closed when movies are shown.

Policy on Cell Phones and Text-Messaging

The student should make every effort to turn off his or her cell phone before entering the classroom. Any student observed text-messaging in class will be counted absent for that class period.

Disability Services

A student with a disability that qualifies for accommodations should contact Sarah Mead Smith, Director of Disability Services at 865-2990 (Academic Resource Center, Room 405, Monroe Hall). A student wishing to receive text accommodations (e.g., extended test time) should provide the instructor with an official Accommodation Form from Disability Services in advance of the scheduled test date.