

Course Outline

First Semester (July – November, 2011), 2011/1012 Academic Year

Subject	ME6215: Chinese Buddhist Thought: A Historical Perspective
Instructor	Dr. Fa Qing
Class Hour	Monday 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Classroom	
Office Hour	By Appointment
Email	faqing@ibc.ac.th
Course Webpage	http://ibc.ac.th/faqing/Chinese-Buddhist-Thought

Course Description

This course examines the Chinese development and interpretation of Buddhist thought in a historical perspective, with a special emphasis on the teachings and practices. The major figures and their contributions to the formation and development of schools, important and influential sūtras and the cults of important divinities will also be examined.

Recommend Reference

- Beal, Samuel. *Buddhism in China*. North Stratford, NH: Ayer Company Publishers, Incorporated, 1977.
- Ch'en, Kenneth. *Buddhism in China: A Historical Survey*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1964.
- Ch'en, Kenneth. *The Chinese Transformation of Buddhism*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1973.
- Fung, Yu-Lan. *A Short History of Chinese Philosophy*. (ed. Derk Bodde). New York: Macmillan, 1966.
- Gregory, Peter N., and Getz, Daniel A., Jr., eds. *Buddhism in the Sung*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1999.
- Junjiro, Takakusu. *The Essentials of Buddhist Philosophy*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2002.
- Lai, Karyn L. *An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008. Pp.235-271.
- Nagao, Gadjin M. *Mādhyamaka and Yogācāra*. Tran. L. Kawamura. Delhi: 1992.
- Tang Yi-Jie. *Confucianism, Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity, and Chinese culture*. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 1991.
- Weinstein, Stanley. *Buddhism under the T'ang*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1987.
- Yu, Chun-fang. *The Renewal of Buddhism in China: Chu-hung and the Late Ming Synthesis*. New York and London: Columbia University Press, 1981.
- Zürcher, Erik. *The Buddhist Conquest of China: The Spread and Adaptation of Buddhism in Early Medieval China*, 2 vols. Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, 1959.

Books with Open License

- Beal, S. *Buddhism in China*. London: 1884.
- Edkins, Joseph. *Chinese Buddhism Historical, Descriptive and Critical*. London: 1879.

Weekly Reading Articles

1. Fung, Yu-Lan. "The Spirit of Chinese Philosophy," *A Short History of Chinese Philosophy*. (ed. Derk Bodde). New York: Macmillan, 1966. pp1-15.
2. Kenneth K. Inada. "The Chinese Doctrinal Acceptance of Buddhism." *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, vol 24:1 (1991), PP. 5-17.
3. Liebenthal, Walter. "Chinese Buddhism During the 4th and 5th Centuries." *Monumenta Nipponica*, Vol. 11, No. 1. (1955), pp. 44-83.
4. Fung, Yu-Lan. "The Foundation of Chinese Buddhism," *A Short History of Chinese Philosophy*.

- (ed. Derk Bodde). New York: Macmillan, 1966. pp1-15.
5. Ichimura, Shohei. "On the Paradoxical Method of the Chinese Mādhyamika: Seng-chao and the Chao-lun Treatise." *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 19 (1992): 51-71.

Course Requirements

Students require to read the assigned textbook before joining the class (weekly reading assignment will be given in the class). One essay (around 5-7 pages, double space with footnotes and bibliography) and one presentation are required. The presentation will be 10 minutes. After presentation there will be question and answer session. Each student must ask at least one question after presentation.

For essay writing guide, read my article online at: <http://ibc.ac.th/faqing/essayguide>

Allocation of Marks

1. Short Essay/Book Review: 10%
2. Presentation: 10%
3. One Essay 20%
3. Final written exam: 60%

Course Plan

The course will be taught according the following topics, each session one topic. It is a traditional lecture based course, however students are encouraged to ask questions in the class.

1. Introduction Buddhism to China
2. Dao An and early translators
3. Prajñā School and Meditation practice
4. Kumārajīva and San Lun School
5. Early Pure Land and Chan School
6. Zhiyi and Tian Tai School
7. Threefold truth in Tian Tai
8. Hua Yan School
9. Hua Yan major doctrines
10. Xuan Zang and Fa Xiang School
11. Fa Xiang Teachings
12. Chan School
13. Pure Land School
14. Song Dynasty and Ming Dynasty
15. Tai Xu Reform Buddhism
16. Review

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will:

1. Understand the major teaching and practice in different Chinese Buddhist Schools.
2. Understand the essential history and major issues of Chinese Buddhism.
3. Understand the historical context and the significance of each Chinese Schools.
4. Be able to write academic essay and present ideas critically.