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Coleman
~~SSRI 99~~
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RE 360 Ch'an (Zen) Buddhism Summer Interim 1999

Description: This course will examine the development of Ch'an Buddhism in China and the Rinzai and Soto Zen schools as they developed in Japan. The social and liberation aspects of Zen teaching will be examined, as well as religious, environmental, martial, and artistic themes. Students will also practice zazen.

Required Texts:

Ives, Christopher. Zen Awakening and Society. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1992.

Suzuki, D.T. An Introduction to Zen Buddhism. New York: Grove Weidenfeld, 1964.

Habito, Reuben. Passion for the Earth.

Excerpts from:

Yampolsky, Philip B. "The Formation of the Legend." Chap. in The Platform Sutra of Hui Neng. New York: Columbia University Press, 1967, 1-57.

Dumoulin, Heinrich. "Beginnings and Roots in India." In Zen Buddhism: A History. Vol. 1, India and China. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988, 3-59.

Hisamatsu, Shin'ichi. Zen and the Fine Arts. Translated by Gishin Tokiwa. Tokyo: Kodansha International, Ltd., 1982.

Aitken, Robert. "Fundamentals." In Taking the Path of Zen. San Francisco: North Point Press, 1982, 1-25.

Student Objectives: The Student will be able to:

- * discuss the development of Ch'an Buddhism within the context of traditional Chinese Culture and religions;
- * relate the story of Hui-neng, and discuss the content of the Platform Sutra of Hui-neng;
- * discuss some of the traditional methods of transmission within the Ch'an schools;
- * practice basic meditation techniques;
- * dialogue with others on the notion of emptiness (nothingness) in the Zen experience;

- * discuss the contributions Zen makes to the environmental debates;
- * discuss the relationship between the Zen experience and the Western experience of mysticism;
- * discuss the impact of Zen upon Japanese culture within the context of art, architecture, and martial arts; and
- * discuss a personal and social ethics based on Zen Buddhism

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Readings and Participation: Each student is responsible for completing the readings in the course as assigned in the syllabus, and participating in the discussions on those readings. Students may be required to write short reflections based on the readings and discussions in class.

Presentations: Each student will be asked to lead a discussion based on the assigned readings at least one time during the semester. These may be done as individual presentations or a group presentations, depending on the enrollment for the class.

Exams: There is one oral exam scheduled. The Final Exam will be an essay style exam. Students may be required to answer specific questions during the class times, based on the readings.

Schedule of Classes:

Summer 2 1999
 Mr. Dave Coleman
 Office phone: 735-4866

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|------------|--|
| June 15 | Introduction Foreword by Carl G. Jung (Suzuki, 9-29) Forward and Introduction (Ives, viii-12) Aitken, Robert. "Fundamentals." In <u>Taking the Path of Zen</u> . San Francisco: North Point Press, 1982, 1-25. <i>Hinduism (Campbell); Footprint of the Buddha</i> |

- June 17 Dumoulin, Heinrich.. "Beginnings and Roots in India." In Zen Buddhism: A History. Vol. 1, India and China. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988, 3-59.
Buddhism (Campbell); Chinese Buddhism
- June 19 Yampolsky, Philip B. "The Formaton of the Legend." Chap. in The Platform Sutra of Hui Neng. New York: Columbia University Press, 1967, 1-57.
The Land of the Disappearing Buddha
- June 21 An Introduction to Zen Buddhism
What is Zen? (38-47)
Is Zen Nihilistic? (48-57)
Illogical Zen (58-65)
Zen a Higher Affirmation (66-73)
- June 23 An Introduction to Zen Buddhism
Practical Zen (74-87)
Satori, or Acquiring a New Viewpoint (88-98)
The Koan (99-117)
The Meditation Hall and the Monk's Life (118-132)
Principles and Practices of Zen
- June 25 Passion for the Earth
- June 26 Passion for the Earth
Oral Exams
- June 28 Zen Awakening and Society
The Zen Path (13-33)
Ethical Dimensions of Zen ... (34-50)
- June 30 Zen Awakening and Society
Ethical and Political Stances ... (51-68)
Recent Critiques and Developments (69-98)
- July 2 Zen Awakening and Society
Wisdom, Suffering and Practice (99-113)
Zen Formulation of the Social Good (114-144)

discussions and Final Exam

Student Presentations

Group Presentations:

- June 17 Dumoulin, Heinrich.. "Beginnings and Roots in India." In Zen Buddhism: A History. Vol. 1, India and China. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988, 3-59.
- June 19 Yampolsky, Philip B. "The Formaton of the Legend." Chap. in The Platform Sutra of Hui Neng. New York: Columbia University Press, 1967, 1-57.
- June 25 Habito, Reuben. Passion for the Earth.
- June 26 Habito, Reuben. Passion for the Earth.

Individual Presentations:

An Introduction to Zen Buddhism

- June 21 *What is Zen? (38-47)*
Is Zen Nihilistic? (48-57)
Illogical Zen (58-65)
Zen a Higher Affirmation (66-73)
- June 23 *Practical Zen (74-87)*
Satori, or Acquiring a New Viewpoint (88-98)
The Koan (99-117)
The Meditation Hall and the Monk's Life (118-132)

Zen Awakening and Society

- June 28 *The Zen Path (13-33)*
Ethical Dimensions of Zen ... (34-50)
- June 30 *Ethical and Political Stances ... (51-68)*
Recent Critiques and Developments (69-98)
- July 2 *Wisdom, Suffering and Practice (99-113)*
Zen Formulation of the Social Good (114-144)