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**Chaminade University of Honolulu
Summer Evening Interim
June 16 - 30, 2000
Camp Smith**

COURSE: RE 35580 Buddhism
TIME: Weekdays 17:30-21:40, Saturdays 08:00-12:10
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel
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TEXTBOOKS: Jones, Ken, 1989, **THE SOCIAL FACE OF BUDDHISM**, London: Wisdom Publications.
Lester, Robert C., 1987, **BUDDHISM: THE PATH TO NIRVANA**, Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland.

DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the concepts and practices of Buddhism cross culturally. The class will survey historical, social, political, psychological, and spiritual aspects of Buddhism as religion and philosophy. The focus will be on Early Buddhism, the development of Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism, Pureland Buddhism, and Zen Buddhism.

OBJECTIVES:

- *survey historical development of Buddhism.
- *learn about Buddhism as unified systems of beliefs and practices cross-culturally.
- *compare the variations of the practices and rituals of Buddhism in Eastern and Western countries.
- *examine the application of Buddhist teaching and philosophy in social, political, economical systems and environmental issues.
- *critically review the influence of Buddhism in the development of the psycho-social transformation in the West.

FORMAT:

This class will utilize the seminar setting and special topics presented by guest speakers with occasional field trips. It will be an interactive, cooperative learning experience for the students and the instructor. The format includes small group discussions, video analysis, student presentations and debates. Students are encouraged to actively participate in all class activities. It is very crucial that students read the assigned chapters and come to class well prepared for class discussion.

REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to be open minded and courteous in class discussion and to participate regularly in all class activities. Each student is expected to carefully read the assigned chapter in the textbook and be prepared to discuss it for the class period of the assignment.

Only registered students are allowed to be in the class.

All students will be graded on the following requirements:

- *come to class on time and stay for the whole period.
- *be courteous and professional in class discussions, i.e., take turn in speaking, allowing others to express their ideas without interruption, communicate with positive, constructive verbal and non-verbal language.
- *show respect and an open mind to different ideas and opinions from class members.
- *turn in assignments on time.
- *be responsible to cooperate and complete class/team projects on time.

GRADING:

The grading will be based on

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| 1. Class attendance and participation | 20 pts. |
| 2. Book chapter reports | 20 pts. |
| 3. Reflective journals
(3 written journals and
class presentation) | 30 pts. |
| 4. Research project
(written report 20 pts.
oral report 10 pts.) | 30 pts. |

90-100 =A, 80-89 =B, 70-79 =C, 60-69 =D, 59 AND BELOW=F

BOOK CHAPTER REPORTS:

Students will be assigned to read chapter(s) from the textbooks and to turn in the following on the day when they take a leading role in class discussion:

- 1) a 1-2 page (typed double-spaced) summary of the chapter(s) including
- 2) 3 main points from the reading clearly stated in bullet or number format, and
- 3) 3 analytical questions for class discussion.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

The purpose of the project is for students to creatively apply knowledge from classroom to real life experience. Students must choose a research topic relating to Buddhism. The research methodology includes survey, interviews, and a literature review.

The written report of the research should be within the range of 7-10 double-spaced typed pages. It will be due on the last day of the class when the oral report is given.

Plagiarized work will lead to failure of the course. Also, it will be reported to the university for disciplinary action.

ORAL REPORT ON RESEARCH PROJECT:

Each student will have 15 minutes to share their project with the class. The oral report should be a brief summary of the student's written report. Reading from the written report is discouraged and points will be taken off. The grade will be based on the criteria given before the presentation.

REFLECTIVE JOURNAL:

Each student is required to keep a reflective journal and turn it in on June 26th. This journal should reflect the student's understanding of Buddhism as stated in the objectives of this class. This journal must be typed, double-spaced. The total number of the pages of the journal should be 3-5. The journal will be graded for its brief and insightful reflection of the understanding of Buddhism. The contents and format of the journal should include:

- 1) reflective understanding of the chosen topic;
- 2) insightful comment on the topic; and
- 3) 3 analytical questions about the topic.

LEARNING OUTCOME ASSESSMENT:

All of students' work will be evaluated for:

- *knowledge of the subject matter from textbooks, class lectures, discussion, videos, resources from research, outside class activities, field trips.
- *ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints.
- *ability to apply the knowledge to understand current issues in society.
- *clarity and logical presentation.
- *demonstration of having an understanding of the subject matter objectively and from opposing viewpoints.
- *demonstration of achieving the objectives of this class.
- *ability to analyze, critically review, and compare the issues cross-culturally.

Students must turn in on time all class assignments and the exam in class. Points will be taken off for turning in assignments late. All work turned in must be typed double-spaced.

ONLY HARD COPY WILL BE ACCEPTED. EXAM AND ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED VIA EMAIL OR FAX.

SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u> (Chapter)
JUNE 16	Orientation and Introduction	
17	Historical Development of Buddhism Beliefs and Practices	Lester ch.2,3
19	Understanding Buddhist Life and Trends	Lester ch.4,5 Jones pt.1,2,3
21	Buddhist Training and Morality	Jones pt.4,5,6
23	The Application and the Influences	Jones pt. 7,8
24	FIELD TRIP TO THE TEMPLE Guest speaker: Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani	
25	FIELD TRIP/RESEARCH	
26	TURN IN JOURNAL Buddhist Ecology and Environmentalism Guest speaker: Dr. Leslie Sponsel	
28	REVIEW PRELIMINARY REPORT ON RESEARCH PROJECT	
30	TURN IN FINAL RESEARCH REPORT CLASS PRESENTATION	

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