BUDDHISM IN INDIA / PHILOSOPHY OF BUDDHISM

Textbook
Walpola Rahula, What the Buddha Taught (any edition)

Articles (on Blackboard)
Patrick A. Franke, “Vipassana” (EB)
Charles Prebish, “Councils: Buddhist” (ER)
Ashoka’s Dharma (inscriptions)
B. L. Smith, "The Ideal Social Order as Portrayed in the Chronicles of Ceylon"
Paul Williams, “The Bodhisattva Path” (ER)
Frederick J. Streng, “Suyam And Sunyata” (ER)
The Sutra on the Essence of Transcendent Knowledge
Chögyam Trungpa, "Shunyata"
Excerpt from Lotus Sutra
F. Reynolds & C. Hallisey, “Buddha” (ER)
Hattori Masaaki, “Yogacara” (ER)
R. Davidson & C. Orzech, “Tantra” (EB)

Video
“Footprint of the Buddha” -
Course requirements

1. There are three tests and each is weighted at 33% of the course grade. The tests will be in class on 10/2, 10/28 and during exam week on 12/9 @ 10-11 a.m.. You may earn as many as 99 points for these tests.

2. One extra credit possibility is for you to visit a local Buddhist temple of Dharma center. Your job is to figure out which school of Buddhism, which country, which lineage, etc., of this temple, as well as its history. You may have to make more than one visit, as you must do reading, interview the leader(s) of the temple as well as some of the members. 5-7 pages, 10 points possible.
3. Another extra credit possibility is for you to attend programs and lectures from Religious Studies, Spirituality, Asian Studies, Jewish Studies, etc. I will let you know by e-mail which lectures could work. Within 48 hours of the event, you must post a 2 page write-up: What was the lecture/program about, and what did you think about it? 2 points per lecture is possible, and there will be between 5 and 10 lectures this semester. You could earn 10-20 points.

YOUR GRADE WILL BE THE TOTAL OF THE 3 TEST SCORES PLUS ANY EXTRA CREDIT WORK YOU DO. THIS MEANS ANY STUDENT WHO DOES THE WORK CAN EARN A GOOD GRADE.

Grades will be posted on Turnitin, course number 8419259, password dharma18. Extra credit reports must be posted on Turnitin.

Excused absences:
The instructor will make every effort to accommodate students who must miss class due to religious observances. However, students must communicate such conflicts to the instructor within the first two weeks of class.

Late work:
Late work will not be accepted except in cases of extreme and documented crises. Similarly, make-up tests are possible only by prior arrangement. Please note that I am very strict about these points.

First day of class policy:
Students are STRONGLY urged not to miss the first day or first week of class. If you cannot be in class, then do not take this class.

Note:

All cell phones must be silenced during class. Arriving late or departing early are rude behaviors that will not be tolerated.