



INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES

2140 DURANT AVENUE #30, BERKELEY, CA 94704-1589
TELEPHONE 510.809.1444 FACSIMILE 510.809.1411

[Enrollment Options]

A. Degree Programs

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Buddhist Studies

In cooperation with the Graduate Theological Union, the Institute of Buddhist Studies offers a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree with a specialization in Buddhist Studies. Applicants to the MA program must be admitted to both the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) and the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS). Students in the program are required to take a broad range of courses in Buddhist Studies, while also gaining an exposure to other religious traditions and a variety of approaches to the study of religion.

Master of Buddhist Studies (M.B.S.)

The MBS degree is offered by IBS and designed for those who are interested in a systematic education in Buddhist Studies for professional or personal purposes. Students in the program are required to take courses focusing in Buddhist Studies, developing an understanding of the doctrinal, historical and cultural development of the tradition as a whole.

B. Non-Degree Programs

Special Students

This status is either for students preparing to enroll at the IBS in a degree program, in which case the status is normally maintained for no more than one academic year, or for students wishing to take classes for credit to transfer to another institution. Special students are expected to be able to work at the graduate level, and are required to fulfill all academic work as expected of other students in the classes they take.

Auditors

Most courses are open to enrollment by auditors. Auditors pay an auditor's fee, which is lower than that paid by regular students. No grade is given to the auditor for the course and transcripts are not available for audited classes. IBS will keep registration records for "Auditor with Record," whereas no record of attendance will be maintained by the Institute for "Auditor without Record." Auditors are expected to be able to work at the graduate level and to participate fully in the class.

[Application Timeline]

A. Degree Program

Applications are accepted for either the fall or spring academic terms. Completed applications are due by February 15 for fall semester and by September 30 for spring semester enrollment. Application materials are available through the GTU Admissions Office for the MA Program, and the IBS Office for the MBS Program.

B. Non-Degree Program

There are no admission requirements for non-degree students. Registration forms should be submitted to the IBS office during the registration period in order to be enrolled. The fall 2008 registration deadline is **Monday, August 25, 2008**. The registration form is available at the following site: <http://www.shin-ibs.edu/documents/regform.pdf>

[Tuition and Fees for Fall 2008]

Tuition

Full-time: \$6,855/semester
Part-time: \$1,715/course
Special Student: \$3,000/course
Auditor with Record: \$1,875/course
Auditor without Record: \$750/course

Fees

Application fee: \$40.00 (non-refundable)
Registration fee : \$100.00/semester (non-refundable, all students, including auditors)

*** FALL COURSE 2008 ***

ONLINE COURSES

1. HRHS 3014 Tibetan Understandings of Tantra

Instructor: Harrington

Tibet received a wealth of tantric materials from India, and in turn Tibetan thinkers and practitioners further developed tantra as a religious system. This course will explore this systematization of Buddhist tantra in Tibet, through readings in English translation of key works by Tsongkhapa and Kongtrul. The readings will first be placed in context with an overview of the history of Tibetan Buddhism. As an online course, students will be expected to maintain a detailed reading log of their thoughts, reflections, and questions about each week's readings, to be shared with other class members, and to participate in a discussion of these reflections. A summary reflection paper of approx. 20+ pp. will be required at the end of the semester.

2. HR 3075 History of the Shin Buddhist Tradition I: Premodern Japan

Instructor: Amstutz

This course takes the history of the Shin Buddhist Tradition forward from the seven masters, examining the formation of the tradition by Shinran and its revitalization by Rennyo, as well as further developments into the Tokugawa. Required of ministerial aspirants. HRHS 3250 History of the Pure Land Tradition: Seven Masters recommended as background.

3. HRP 4556 Topics in Buddhist Thought: Women, Family and Dharma

Instructor: Grumbach

Offered online in conjunction with a conference held in Denver, Colo., Aug. 29–31, 2008 (conference participation not required). This course challenges general notions that Buddhism is primarily an individual (meditative) practice by looking at the family as the locus of practice. Women will be a focus of the course, but we will also examine men's issues as well as children and the Dharma. Topics will include women and authority; sangha and/as family; disability; alternative family structures; and practice in the family.

REGULAR COURSES (JSC Class Room 130)

1. HR 1512 Buddhist Japanese I

Instructor: Kurioka

Monday/Friday 12:40PM - 2:00PM

Introduces basics of Japanese grammar, vocabulary, kana & kanji, and dictionary work, including both Buddhist vocabulary and dictionaries. Work with paragraph length selections from modern popular Japanese publications on Buddhism. Course format: Lecture. Evaluation method: Participation/Exam.

2. HRSP 1515 Buddhist Traditions of South Asia

Instructor: Grumbach

Thursday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

Introduces the Buddhist traditions as they originated in India and developed throughout South and Southeast Asia. First half of the required year long introductory survey of the entire Buddhist tradition. Usually offered each fall semester. Course format: Lecture. Evaluation method: Participation/Term paper.

3. HR 1614 Introduction to Shin Buddhist Thought

Instructor: Matsumoto

Wednesday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

This course will introduce the thought and practice of Shin Buddhism, a major form of Pure Land Buddhism founded by Shinran (1173-1262). The development and implications of Shin Buddhist thought will be considered within the context of contemporary religious and philosophic discussions.

4. FE1810 Shin Buddhist Services and Ceremonies

Instructor: Bridge

Monday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

This class will examine the role of ritual in the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha tradition. Topics will include the relationship between practice, doctrine, & ritual, ritual architecture, and historical and modern examples of ritual practice. Offered every other semester. Course Format: Lecture. Evaluation: Written reports and participation.

5. HRP 3006 Chinese Buddhist Philosophy

Instructor: Williams

Thursday 2:10PM - 5:00PM

The theoretical basis for the doctrines and practices of Pure Land Buddhism in East Asia will be examined through a study of Tanluan's Commentary on the Pure Land Discourse. Reading ability in Buddhist Chinese is helpful, but not required.

6. HR 3041 Survey of Japanese Zen

Instructor: Kinst

Friday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

This course will survey the historical development of the Japanese Zen tradition, including monastic setups and ritual enactments, and its colorful teaching stories. We will explore major practices including strategies for meditation, with experiential engagement in some of these practices. The course will focus on writings and stories of a number of the great Japanese Zen figures, such as Dogen, Ikkyu, Bankei, Hakuin, and Ryokan. We will also look at the impact of Zen on everyday, mainstream Japanese culture through the development of the Way of Tea and its associated arts. We will conclude with some consideration of the role of women in Japanese Zen, and of modern developments supporting Japanese

7. HRFE 4000 Issues in Shin Buddhist Ministry

Instructor: Yamaoka

Monday 2:10PM - 5:00PM

Explore the difficulties and direction of Shin Buddhist Ministry within the Western context.

8. HR 4568 Works of Shinran III: Teaching, Practice, and Realization (continued)

Instructor: Nasu

Tuesday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

Introduction to the teaching of Shinran through a study of his major treatise in English translation. Course required for ministerial aspirants. Fulfills Course Distribution Requirement for BIBL. Format: Seminar. Evaluation: Participation and term paper. HRP 1614 Intro to Shin Buddhist Thought and at least one year college level Japanese, or instructor's permission.

ONLINE COURSES

1. HRHS 8325 History of the Pure Land Buddhist Tradition: The Seven Masters

Instructor: Nasu

The Shin Buddhist tradition traces its origins to the works of Nagarjuna, Vasubandhu, T'an-luan, Tao-ch'o, Shan-tao, Genshin and Honen. This course examines their contributions to the development of Shin Buddhism. Required of ministerial aspirants. HRPB 1614 (Introduction to Shin Buddhist Thought) recommended as background...

2. HRHS 8454 Topics in Buddhist Traditions of Japan: Dogen

Instructor: Leighton

The writings of Eihei Dogen, the 13th century Japanese Soto Zen founder, are a unique highpoint of Zen literature. Exploring profound Buddhist philosophical issues, Dogen creatively used poetic language and wordplay to evocatively express the meaning of practice/enlightenment; to encourage awareness and engagement of Buddha nature; and to train his students who successfully established Soto Zen in Japan. This course will focus on textual study of selections from Dogen's two masterworks, True Dharma Eye Treasury (Shobogenzo), with its elaborate essays, and Dogen's Extensive Record (translated in its entirety by the instructor with Shohaku Okumura), with short discourses to his students, fully demonstrating Dogen's teaching style and humor. Dogen's teachings encompass meditation, koans (traditional teaching stories), nature mysticism, community life, theories of temporality, and bodhisatva lore. The course will also include reading and discussion of major contemporary commentaries on Dogen, including writings by the instructor. We will also address these writings in terms of how Dogen's teachings relate to modern spiritual issues.

3. HR 8456 Works of Shinran IV: Tannisho

Instructor: Nasu

Introduction to the teachings of Shinran through a study of a key summary of his thought. Course will utilize the English translation to support the study of the original text. Course is required for ministerial aspirants.

REGULAR COURSES (JSC Class Room 130)

1. HR 1513 Buddhist Japanese II

Instructor: Kurioka

Monday/Thursday 12:40PM - 2:00PM

Work with longer Japanese text selections, e.g., short essay selections drawing from popular Buddhism publications, and with greater emphasis on multiple language equivalents (Sanskrit., Chinese., Tibetan) and the corresponding concepts within Buddhist thought.

2. HRHS 1518 Buddhist Traditions of East Asia

Instructor: Grumbach

Thursday 2:10PM - 5:00PM

Introduces the Buddhist traditions as they originated in India and develop throughout South and Southeast Asia. First half of the required year long introductory survey of the entire Buddhist tradition. Usually offered each fall semester.

3. HR 1615 Readings in Early Buddhist Texts

Instructor: Seelawimala

Tuesday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

Texts selected by instructor from the early Buddhist tradition. May include Pali and early Mahayana texts. May be repeated for credit when a different text is chosen for study.

4. HRCE 3022 Introduction to Buddhist Ethics

Instructor: Seelawimala

Thursday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

Ethical knowledge and conduct is an essential part of Buddhist teachings. One third of the systematic blue print of Buddhism is dedicated to ethics. In Buddhism ethics is not discussed as a part of a religious practice; it is simply a tool for an error free healthy life. A person's ethical behavior is correlated with his or her level of understanding how one is related to the external world. Therefore, Buddhism emphasizes a cultivation of ethical conduct based on understanding or wisdom, the knowledge of cause and effect. Basic principles of Buddhist Ethics, application of these principles in real life and day to day decision-making will be discussed throughout the course using actual case studies.

5. PSHR 3076 Buddhist Pastoral Care

Instructor: Kinst

Friday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

As an introduction to pastoral care, this course helps students integrate their academic development with their practice of their religious tradition and their commitment to ministry. Special attention will be given to the Buddhist perspective. Through the study of theory, reflection and pastoral practice, students will grow in their knowledge of self and others, learn pastoral presence, communication skills, and assessment methods.

6. HR 4542 Topics in Japanese Religions: Shinto and Buddhism in Japanese History

Instructor: Grumbach

Tuesday 2:10PM - 5:00PM

The long relationship between Shinto and Buddhism and the government-ordered split of the two in 1868 have been great forces in the shaping of Japanese culture and society. This course examines the early history of Shinto; the combining of Shinto with Buddhism; and the modern state of both traditions after their forced separation.

7. HR 4548 Topics in Shin Buddhist Thought: Theological Issues in Shin Buddhism: Good & Evil, Humanness, Salvation.

Instructor: Matsumoto

Wednesday 9:40AM - 12:30PM

The term "Buddhist Theology" is no longer an oxymoron. A growing number of studies suggest that theological methods and concerns can offer new perspectives on traditional issues of Buddhist thought and practice. Some forms of Buddhism, moreover, are particularly compelling subjects for this approach because of their apparent "theological" framework. In this course we will examine a range of ideas, such as good-evil, faith, immanence-transcendence, salvation and the question of humanness, which give Shin Buddhism its unique, "theological" character. Along the way, we will also look at recent trends in Buddhist and Christian theologies and consider how they might contribute to the development of religious thought in the future.