

HRPH-3006-01 (13856) CHINESE BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY – Course Syllabus
Spring Semester 2011, Mondays 2:10 pm - 5:00 pm. Location: JSC Room 130.
Charlie Korin Pokorny.

Course Description:

As Buddhism spread from India, it encountered in China a highly developed civilization with its own indigenous traditions of philosophy and religious praxis. This encounter led to a flowering of new developments in the theory and practice of Buddhism. This course will explore a number of significant currents in Chinese Buddhist philosophy, including the transplantation and transformation of the Indian Madhyamaka and Yogacara schools, as well as the development of new approaches including the T'ien-t'ai, Hua-yen, Ch'an and Pure Land schools.

Course Requirements:

Weekly required reading assignments

5-10 page rough draft/outline of term paper (Due April 18)

15-20 page term paper (Due May 16)

Evaluation based on attendance & participation in class and final paper

Weekly Topics and Reading Assignments

I. Introduction (Jan 31 & Feb 7)

Jan 31: Contexts: a. Philosophical Context: Taoism and Confucianism
b. Historical Overview of Chinese Buddhism

Feb 7: Transformation of Buddhism in China (and an overview of Indian Buddhism if necessary)

Reading: Robert Sharf, "Prolegomenon to the Study of Medieval Chinese Buddhist Literature" in *Coming to Terms with Chinese Buddhism*, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2002. pp. 1-27.
Whalen Lai, "Tao-sheng's Theory of Sudden Enlightenment Re-examined" in *Sudden and Gradual Approaches to Enlightenment in Chinese Thought*, Peter Gregory, ed. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1987. pp. 169-200.

II. Indian Schools of Buddhism in China (Feb 14 & Feb 28)

Feb 14: Madhyamaka – Three Treatise School and Early Chinese Approaches to the Two Truths

Reading: Richard Robinson, trans. "Emptiness of the Non-Absolute" [by Seng-chao, T1858] in *Early Madhyamika in India and China*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1978. pp. 222-227.
Aaron Koseki, trans. "The Meaning of the Two Truths" [by Chi-tsang T1853] in *Chi-tsang's Ta-ch'eng-hsuan-lun: The Two Truths and the Buddha Nature*, Ph.D. diss. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1977. pp. 269-356.

Feb 21 – No Class: President's Day

Feb 28: Chinese Appropriations of Yogacara and Tathagata-garbha

Reading: Dan Lusthaus, "Why Consciousness is Not Empty" in *Buddhist Phenomenology*, New York: Routledge, 2003. pp. 447-471.
Robert Gimello, "The Early Chinese Appropriation of Yogacara and Tathagatagarbha Buddhism" in *Chih-yen and the Foundations of Hua-yen Buddhism*, Ph.D. diss., Columbia University, 1976. pp. 277-337 (pp. 212-277 also recommended for doctrinal background).

III. Chinese Schools of Buddhism (March 7 – May 16)

March 7: T'ien-T'ai Buddhism 1: Chih-i, Doctrinal Classification, One Vehicle, The Four Teachings

Reading: Leon Hurvitz, “Chih-i’s System of P’an-chiao” in *Chih-i (538-597): An Introduction to the Life and Ideas of a Chinese Buddhist Monk. Melanges chinois et bouddhiques*, vol.12(1960-62). pp. 214-271.

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David Chappell, trans. *T'ien-t'ai Buddhism: An Outline of the Fourfold Teachings*, recorded by Chegwan, translated by The Buddhist Translation Seminar of Hawaii and introduced and edited by David Chappell. Tokyo: Daiichi-Shobo, 1983. pp. 51-82 (and pp 83-173 recommended)

March 14: T'ien-T'ai Buddhism 2: The Two Truths, The Threefold Truth, the One Truth and No Truth

Reading: Paul Swanson, trans. “Fa-hua Hsuan-i” [excerpt from the “Profound Meaning of the Lotus Sutra” by Chih-i, T1716] in *Foundations of T'ien-t'ai Philosophy*. Nanzan Studies in Religion and Culture. Berkeley: Asian Humanities Press, 1989. pp. 199-256

March 21 – No Class: Reading Week

March 28: T'ien-T'ai Buddhism 3: Teachings on Buddha Nature; The Six Identities

Reading: Paul Swanson, “T'ien-t'ai Chih-i's Concept of Threefold Buddha Nature” in *Buddha Nature*, Paul Griffiths & John Keenan, ed. Tokyo: Kenkyushu, 1990. pp. 171-180.
Paul Swanson, trans. “The Six Identities” in *The Great Cessation-and-Contemplation (Mo-ho chih-kuan)* [by Chih-i] CD-rom. Tokyo: Kosei Publishing, 2004 (provisional edition). pp. 115-124.
Yu-kuan Ng, “Middle Way-Buddha Nature as the Truth” in *T'ien-T'ai Buddhism and Early Madhyamika*, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1993. pp. 62-89.

April 4: T'ien-T'ai Buddhism 4: The Four Samadhis; T'ien-t'ai in China after Chih-i

Reading: Paul Swanson, trans. “Cultivating Great Practice – The Four Samadhis” [by Chih-i, T1911] in *The Great Cessation-and-Contemplation (Mo-ho chih-kuan)* CD-rom. Tokyo: Kosei Publishing, 2004 (provisional edition). pp. 125-246 (feel free to only skim the footnotes)

April 11: Hua-yen Buddhism 1: Hua-yen Doctrinal Classification

Reading: Ming-wood Liu, “The P’an-chiao system of the Hua-yen school in Chinese Buddhism” in *T'oung Pao* 67, nos. 1-2 (1981). pp. 10-47.
Dale Wright, “The ‘Thought of Enlightenment’ in Fa-tsang’s Hua-yen Buddhism” in *The Eastern Buddhist*, (Fall 2001). pp. 97-106.

April 18: Hua-yen Buddhism 2: The Four Dharmadhatus

Reading: Robert Gimello, trans. “Discernments of the Dharma Element” [by Tu-shun, T1883] in *Chih-yen and the Foundations of Hua-yen Buddhism*, Ph.D. diss. Columbia University, 1976. pp. 457-510

April 25: Ch'an Buddhism 1: Historical Overview; Foundation of Ch'an: The Platform Sutra

Reading: Philip Yampolsky, trans. *The Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch* [by Hui-neng, T2007] New York: Columbia University Press, 1967. pp. 125-183.

May 2: Ch'an Buddhism 2: The Record of Lin-chi; The development of Koan Literature

Reading: Ruth Fuller Sasaki, trans. Thomas Yuho Kirchner, ed. *The Record of Linji*, [T1985] Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2009. pp. 3-53.

May 9: This class is being left open for now depending on the interests of the class. Possibilities include:

i) Tsung-mi as Hua-yen and Ch'an Patriarch: Further Developments of Hua-yen Doctrinal Classification and a Critique of Ch'an

Reading: Jeffrey Broughton, trans. "Ch'an Letter" (Tsung-mi) in *Zongmi on Chan* New York: Columbia University Press, 2009. pp. 69-100.
Peter Gregory, *Tsung-mi and the Sinification of Buddhism*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991. pp. 136-170.

ii) The Vinaya (monastic disciple) School

Reading: Leo Pruden, trans. The Essentials of the Vinaya Tradition [by Gyonen] BDK English Tripitaka 97-I, II. Berkeley: Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research, 1995. pp. 11-105.
William Bodiford, "Introduction" in *Going Forth, Visions of Buddhist Vinaya*, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2005. pp. 1-10.

iii) Chan-jan & the Mid-Eighth Century T'ien-t'ai Critique of Hua-yen

Reading: Linda Penkower, trans. "The *Diamond Scalpel*" in *T'ien-t'ai During the T'ang Dynasty: Chan-jan and the Sinification of Buddhism*, Ph.D. diss., Columbia University, 1993.

May 16: Pure Land Buddhism in China

Reading: David Chappell, "Chinese Buddhist Interpretations of the Pure Lands" in *Buddhist and Taoist Studies I*, David Chappell & Michael Saso, ed. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1977. pp. 23-53.

David Chappell, "From Dispute to Dual Cultivation: Pure Land Responses to Chan" in *Traditions of Meditation in Chinese Buddhism*, Peter Gregory, ed. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1986. pp. 163-197.

See "References for Further Reading" for additional articles, books, etc.

Electronic Resources:

Bibliographic references and links to many articles can be found here:

<http://buddhism.lib.ntu.edu.tw/BDLM/en/index.htm>

Digital Dictionary of Buddhism (limit of 5 entries/day; *login:* guest; *password:* guest):

<http://www.buddhism-dict.net/ddb/>

Searchable Taisho Canon Database (including the Japanese volumes):

<http://21dzk.l.u-tokyo.ac.jp/SAT/ddb-sat2.php?lang=en>

Downloadable Taisho Canon (does not include the Japanese volumes, but does include the supplement):

<http://www.cbeta.org/>

Berkeley Library Catalog Search:

<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/>