Undergraduate Course offered by Centre of Buddhist Studies in  
2023-2024 
ELECTIVE COURSE 

BSTC2022 Evolution of Buddhist Meditation 

Lecturer: Venerable Sik Hin Hung  
E-mail address: hinhung@hku.hk  
Office Phone Number: 3917-2847  
Office: Room 413, The Jockey Club Tower  
TA: Ven. Dr. Sumana  
Email: sumana@hku.hk 

Lecture Schedule  
Time: Every Thursday from 4:30pm-6:20pm  
Venue: CPD2.16 

Meditation Workshop (Compulsory)  
Date: To be advised  
Time: 7pm – 8:30pm 

Course Description  

During the past decades, mindfulness practice, a form of Buddhist meditation, has not only become popular in mainstream culture embraced by some of the world’s biggest corporates, including Google, Facebook, P&G, etc. but it has also become the building blocks of several important stress reduction psychosocial interventions such as Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) and Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT). In this course, students will have a chance to study the evolution of Buddhist meditation: from its origination to its latest manifestation as psychosocial interventions spanning more than 2000 years. Through the study of Buddhist meditation texts and experiential learning, the theories and practices of several important Buddhist meditation methods will be introduced, such as mindful-breathing, compassionate meditation, samādhi and vipassanā. Students will be expected to allocate time to practice at home what they have experientially learned in class and workshop. 

In order for students to gain both a theoretical and practical understanding about the different types of meditation, this class will include weekly lecture and four Meditation Workshops.
Objectives

1. To introduce the development of Buddhist meditation, from its earliest form as taught by the Buddha to its latest application in psycho-social interventions.
2. To enable students to gain exposure to the theories and practices of various forms of Buddhist meditation.
3. To help students to experientially learn how the various forms of Buddhist meditation can help a person to understand one’s own mind and handle emotions.
4. By studying the different meditation methods and texts, student should be able to develop insight as to what is Buddhist meditation and be able to critically evaluate the authenticity of a meditation method.

Assessments

1. Participate in the Meditation Workshop and complete four weekly meditation logs to be submitted one week after each weekly workshop (20% of overall grade).
2. Ten in-class quizzes (30% of overall grade [3% for each quiz])
3. Commentary: 2500-3000 words. Based on a text or one section of one of texts taught in class or an essay on one of the meditation methods or modern applications of Buddhist mediation taught in the class. Due on Dec. 8th, 2022 (50% of overall grade). Or, you can also choose to write an essay on a related topic. Please let the Lecturer or TA know the topic you have chosen before you start working on it.

Submission

Meditation Logs
- Hand in hardcopy in class one week after each weekly workshop

Commentary
- Upload a soft copy through Moodle AND
- Hand in a hard copy at Venerable Hin Hung's mailbox (next to CBS conference room on the 4th Floor of the Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus)

On Cover Page:
- Name
- University Number
- Assignment title
- Word Count

Late Submission & Plagiarism
- Within first 7 days after the deadline, one sub-grade will be deducted (e.g. A→A-)
- From the 8th day after the deadline and thereafter, one grade will be deducted (e.g. A→B)

Faculty Grade Expectations: http://arts.hku.hk/grade_expectations.pdf

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. The University upholds the principle that plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and any student found plagiarizing is liable to disciplinary action in addition to failing the assessment concerned. Please read the following webpage on "plagiarism" for details: http://arts.hku.hk/current-students/undergraduate/assessment/plagiarism
**Assessment Guideline**
30% - accuracy of the understanding of the text/book
25% - depth of knowledge (including references)
25% - originality/personal insight
20% - quality of writing and presentation

**Guidelines for the Meditation Log**
1. Honest and factual record of your daily meditation experience
2. Brief description of your experience and reflection

**Guidelines for Commentary**
The Commentary should have:
1. An explanation of the overall background and importance of the text. If you choose only a section of a text to comment on, you should also explain why you choose that particular section.
2. Divide the text into sections with appropriate heading.
3. Elaborate on the meaning of key concepts of the text.
4. Your own learning and experience, in brief.
5. Conclusion

**Style of scholarly writing:**
Proper use of citations and quotations is expected. All contributions of other writers should be noted through accurate quotations (judiciously selected and sparingly used). The final submission should be carefully edited for accurate spelling and competent usage of English punctuation, syntax and grammar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Content and Discussions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L1</td>
<td>How did the historic Buddha practice meditation?</td>
<td>The Dvedhāvitakka Sutta: Two Sorts of Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2</td>
<td>How did the historic Buddha practice meditation?</td>
<td>Nagarā Sutta: The City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3</td>
<td>Mindfulness practice, the most popular form of Buddhist meditation in the 21st Century</td>
<td>Social scientists have integrated mindfulness practice into group-based interventions for treating stress-related problems with success. The two most important mindfulness-based interventions, MBSR and MBCT will be introduced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L4</td>
<td>The fundamental of Buddhist meditation, and the Satipaṭṭhāna-sutta</td>
<td>Why the practice of the four foundations of mindfulness is “the only way” to purification and overcoming sorrow and suffering? Mindfulness of Breathing and body movements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading List (the highlighted books are highly recommended)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ <strong>Analayo; Satipaṭṭāna, The direct path to realization; Sri Lanka, Buddhist Publication Society, 2003.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ <strong>Broughton, Jeffrey L.; The Bodhidharma Anthology, Berkeley, University of California Press, 1999.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ <strong>Buddhaghosa Bhadantacariya, tran. Bhikkhu Nanamoli, The Path of Purification (Visuddhimagga), Singapore, Singapore Buddhist Mediation Centre, 2001.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ <strong>Cleary, Thomas, tran., Buddhist Yoga, A comprehensive course; Boston &amp; London, Shambhala, 1995.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ <strong>Huineng, tran., McRae, John R; The Sixth Patriarch’s Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra, California, Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai and Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>