Undergraduate Course offered by Centre of Buddhist Studies in 2020-21
ELECTIVE COURSE
(OPEN TO ALL FACULTIES)

BSTC2047 Buddhist Chinese Language II (6 Credit) (Semester 2)

Lecturer: Dr. Mingyuan Gao
Email: mingyuan@hku.hk
Office: 4.12, 4/F Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus
Schedule: 13:30-15:20 (Every Tuesday)
Venue: CPD-1.21

Course Description
This course is designed for those who are interested in reading Chinese Buddhist texts in Classical Chinese. The text sources used in this course are those which had significant impact on the development of Chinese Buddhism, mostly composed by Chinese Buddhist masters. Students will learn Buddhist vocabularies and grammars through reading the texts. The course content covers a wide range of Chinese Buddhist texts from the 1st century to the end of medieval China including the colloquial Chan Buddhist writings and rhetorical biographies of eminent monks. This course will build a foundation for further studying Chinese Buddhist history and doctrines.

N.B. 1) This course is designed for students who know at least 700 Chinese characters. Students whose first language is not Chinese or Japanese should check with the course instructor as to their suitability for the course before enrolling. Student may need to take a qualification test.
2) Students who have taken Reading Buddhist Chinese 1 will be exempted from taking the qualification test.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students will gain skills to read and translate Chinese Buddhist text in Classical Chinese and to recognize the style of a given Buddhist text.

Teaching and Learning Method
Lectures and class discussions.
Lecture Schedule (tentative):

Lecture 1 Classical Chinese Syntax/ The Platform Sutra
Lecture 2 Verbal Predicates/ Gong’an (Kōan) Literature
Lecture 3 Noun Phrases and Nominalization/ Historical Record of Buddhism
Lecture 4 Aspect, Time and Mood/ The Sutra of 42 Sections
Lecture 5 Adnominal and Adverbial/ Mouzi’s Treatise on the Removal of Doubt
Lecture 6 Imperative, Interrogative/ Sengzhao’s Treatise on Emptiness
Lecture 7 Manuscript Reading and Segmentation
Lecture 8 Buddhist Terminologies/ Zhiyi’s Elaboration on Buddhist Philosophy
Lecture 9 Influences of Sanskrit Grammars in Buddhist Chinese/ Chengguan’s Commentary on the Avatamsakasūtra
Lecture 10 Exclamatory Sentences/
Lecture 11 Complex Sentences 1/ Biographies of Eminent Monks: Kumārajīva
Lecture 12 Complex Sentences 2/ Continuation of the Biographies of Eminent Monks: Zhiyi

Course Assessment
Class Participation (10%)
Weekly Assignments (40%)
Examination (50%)

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

Disability
Any student who has a documented disability and may require special arrangements (seating, testing, later submission, etc.) should consult the instructor in person at the beginning of the course so that provisions can be made.
**Recommended Reference Books**


**Grammar Books**


**Dictionaries**

10. Revised Chinese Dictionary (by Ministry of Education R.O.C.): [http://dict.revised.moe.edu.tw/cgi-bin/cbdic/gsweb.cgi?ccd=oFMDox&o=e0&sec=sec1&index=1](http://dict.revised.moe.edu.tw/cgi-bin/cbdic/gsweb.cgi?ccd=oFMDox&o=e0&sec=sec1&index=1)

**Translations**


22. BDK English Translation of the Chinese Tripitaka: 
https://www.bdk.or.jp/bdk/digital/

*Last updated: July 21, 2021*