



SOMAIYA
VIDYAVIHAR UNIVERSITY

K J Somaia Institute of Dharma Studies

Syllabus

P. G. Diploma in Chinese Buddhism

Year I

**Academic Year 2020 – 21
(RV02)**

**Centre for Buddhist Studies
K J Somaia Institute of Dharma Studies
Somaia Vidyavihar University, Vidyavihar (E) Mumbai-77**

Preamble: This programme takes a primarily historical approach to the study of Chinese Buddhism. Students will study how nomadic pastoralists, who were also fierce warriors, were the first to connect China to the West; how conduits that were developed for commerce also facilitated transmission of religion and culture; how the quest for knowledge and understanding of a religious tradition from a foreign land inspired people to travel across treacherous terrain for over a thousand years; the resultant impact on Chinese culture and in turn, of the sinicisation of Buddhism. An important element of each lecture will be to engage students in reflections on cross-cultural contact and response to new ideas; human behavior and the development of society, religion and philosophy.

Eligibility:

1. Graduate from any recognised university
2. Students who are studying in final year of graduation can also apply.

Duration: Two Years (4 semesters)

Year 1
Credit Scheme of Courses in Semester I and II

Course Code	Course Name	Teaching Scheme (Hrs.) TH – W –TUT	Total (Hrs.)	Credits Assigned TH – W -TUT	Total Credits
Semester I					
232I20C101	Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy	04 – 0 – 0	04	04 – 0 – 0	04
232I20C102	Chinese Tradition	02 – 0 – 0	02	02 – 0 – 0	02
Total		06 – 0 - 0	06	06 – 0 - 0	06
Semester II					
232I20C201	Buddhism on the Silk Route: China, Persia, Tibet and Kashmir	04 – 0 – 0	04	04 – 0 – 0	04
232I20C202	Chinese Transformation of Buddhism	02 – 0 – 0	02	02 – 0 – 0	02
Total		06 – 0 - 0	06	06 – 0 - 0	06

Semester I

Credit Scheme

Course Code	Course Name	Teaching Scheme (Hrs.) TH – W – TUT	Total (Hrs.)	Credits Assigned TH – W – TUT	Total Credits
232I20C101	Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy	04– 0 – 0	04	04– 0 – 0	04
232I20C102	Chinese Tradition	02– 0 – 0	02	02– 0 – 0	02
	Total	06 – 0 – 0	06	06 – 0 – 0	06

Examination Scheme

Course Code	Course Name	Examination Scheme			
		Marks			
		CA	TW	ESE	Total
126I16C101	Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy	70	--	30	100
232I20C102	Chinese Tradition	70	--	30	100
	Total	140	--	60	200

Course 1: Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy

Course Objectives

Is Buddhism a religion or philosophy or is it a science? What are the individual domains of each discipline, are there any grey areas where they merge? Beginning with these questions, in this course we take the history of ideas approach to study the fundamentals of Buddhist doctrine/philosophy.

Course Outcomes

At the end of successful completion of the course the student will be able to analyse the basic principles of Buddhist philosophy in the contexts of their historical development.

Module No.	Unit No.	Topics	Hours
1. 0		Buddhism and Philosophy	9
	1.1	Buddhism – Philosophy or Religion or Science?	
	1.2	Buddhism and the development of Indian Philosophy	
	1.3	Buddhism and parallels with Western Philosophy (Stoicism, Scepticism, Pragmatism)	

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2.0		The Buddhist View of Reality – I	10
	2.1	Pratityasamutpada	
	2.2	Abhidharma (Theravada and Sarvastivada)	
	2.3	Path to Nirvana	
3.0		Buddhist Epistemology	9
	3.1	Early Buddhist Theories of Knowledge	
	3.2	Dogma, Reason, and Doubt	
4.0		The Buddhist View of Reality – II	10
	4.1	Madhyamaka - sunyata, samsara and nirvana, two truths	
	4.2	Yogacara – alaya vijnana, trisvabhava, nirvana, two truths	
5.0		Buddhist Ethics	10
	5.1	Karma: concept of bodhisattva	
	5.2	Dana and Punya	
6.0		Journal	12
		Total Hours	60

Recommended books:

Sr. No.	Name/s of Author/s	Title of Book	Name of Publisher with country	Edition and Year of Publication
1.	Doniger, Wendy (ed.)	Karma and Rebirth in Classical Indian Traditions	University of California Press	1980
2.	Karunadasa, Y.	The Dhamma Theory: Philosophical Cornerstone of the Abhidhamma	Wheel Publication, Buddhist Publication Society	1996
3.	Karunadasa, Y.	The Theravada Abhidhamma: Its Inquiry into the Nature of Conditioned Reality	Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong, 2010
4.	Ronkin, Noa	Early Buddhist Metaphysics: The Making of a Philosophical Tradition	Routledge	London, 2005
5.	Jayatileke, K.N.	Early Buddhist Theory of Knowledge	George Allen & Unwin Ltd	1963
6.	Williams, Paul	Mahayana Buddhism: The Doctrinal Foundations	Routledge	London and New York, 2009
7.	Kalupahana, David	Causality: The Central Philosophy of Buddhism	University Press of Hawai'i	Honolulu, 1975
8.	Kalupahana, David	Buddhist Philosophy: A Historical Analysis	University Press of Hawai'i	Honolulu, 1976

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9.	Bodhi, Bhikkhu	The Numerical Discourses of the Buddha: A Translation of the Anguttara Nikaya	Wisdom Publications	Boston, 2012
10.	Anacker, S.	Seven Works of Vasubandhu: The Buddhist Psychological Doctor	Motilal Banarsidass	2005
11.	Kalupahana, David	Mulamadhyamakakarika of Nagarjuna: The Philosophy of the Middle Way. Introduction, Sanskrit Text, English Translation and Annotation	Motilal Banarsidass	Delhi, 1991
12.	Kamaleshwar, B., E. H. Johnson, and A. Kunst	The Dialectical Method of Nagarjuna: Vignavavyavartani	Motilal Banarsidass	New Delhi, 2002
13.	han, Yuvraj	The Doctrine of Karma: its Origin and Development in Brahminical, Buddhist and Jaina Traditions	Motilal Banarsidass	Delhi, 1997

Course 2: Chinese Tradition

Course Objectives

In this course, students will engage with the religious, historical and philosophical context of China, into which Buddhism was transmitted. Besides learning about gods, sages, and kings, students will also get an insight into the two main tradition in Chinese thought with whom Buddhism was to compete, collaborate and often be in conflict with in the coming centuries.

Course Outcomes

At the end of successful completion of the course the student will

CO. 1 have understood the Chinese context in which the transmission of Buddhism occurred

CO. 2 acquire some tools to understand a different culture, in a different time

Module No.	Unit No.	Topics	Hours
1.0		<u>Chinese tradition:</u>	
	1.1	Mythology, divination, heaven, sages, ancestors, gods and kings.	14
	1.2	Confucius: the classics, principles, official ideology.	8
	1.3	Daoism: Zhuangzi's free spirit, alchemy, Laozi's Daodejing.	8
		Total Hours	30

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Recommended books:

Sr. No.	Name/s of Author/s	Title of Book	Name of Publisher with country	Edition and Year of Publication
1	Loewe, M & Shaughnessy, E. L. (eds)	Cambridge History of Ancient China	Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK	1999
2	DeWoskin, K. J	Doctors, diviners, and magicians of ancient China: biographies of fang-shih	Columbia University Press	1983
3	Major, John S., Cook, Constance A.	Ancient China: A history	Routledge	2016
4	Cook, Constance A.	Death in Ancient China: The Tale Of One Man's Journey	Brill, Leiden	2006
5	Zhou, Yiqun.	Festivals, Feasts, and Gender Relations in Ancient China and Greece	Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK	2010
6	Hearn, M; Fong, Wen	The Arts of Ancient China	Metropolitan Museum of Art	London and New York, 2009
7	Campbell, T.	Gods and Goddesses of Ancient China	Britannica Educational Publishing	2015
8	Raphals, L.	Divination and Prediction in Early China and Ancient Greece	Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK	2013
9	Marsili, F.	Heaven Is Empty A Cross-Cultural Approach to "Religion" and Empire in Ancient China	State University of New York Press	2019
10	Karlgren, B.	Legends and Cults in Ancient China in The Bulletin of the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities	Motilal Banarsidass	2005
11	Schwartz, B.	The World of Thought in Ancient China	Harvard University Press	1985
12	Slingerland, E.	Confucius Analects with Selections from Traditional Commentaries	Hackett Publishing Company, Cambridge, USA	2003
13	Cleary, T	The Essential Tao: An Initiation Into the Heart of Taoism Through the Authentic Tao Te Ching and the Inner Teachings of Chuang-Tzu	Castle Books	1988

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14	Chang, Chung-yuan	Creativity and Taoism: A Study of Chinese Philosophy, Art and Poetry	Singing Dragon, Philadelphia	2011
15	Weber, Max	The Religion of China	The Free Press, Glencoe, Illinois	1959

Semester II

Credit Scheme

Course Code	Course Name	Teaching Scheme (Hrs.) TH – W – TUT	Total (Hrs.)	Credits Assigned TH – W – TUT	Total Credits
232I20C201	Buddhism on the Silk Route: China, Persia, Tibet and Kashmir	04– 0 – 0	04	04– 0 – 0	04
232I20C202	Chinese Transformation of Buddhism	02– 0 – 0	02	02– 0 – 0	02
	Total	06 – 0 - 0	06	06 – 0 - 0	06

Examination Scheme

Course Code	Course Name	Examination Scheme			
		Marks			
		CA	TW	ESE	Total
232I20C201	Buddhism on the Silk Route: China, Persia, Tibet and Kashmir	70	--	30	100
232I20C202	Chinese Transformation of Buddhism	70	--	30	100
	Total	140	--	60	200

Course 1: Buddhism on the Silk Route: China, Persia, Tibet and Kashmir

Course Objectives

The Silk Route was a conduit for trade goods, as well for people and ideas; people of different ethnicities mingled here, all partaking of the enormous wealth that was generated by the trade. Nomadic pastoralists settled in city states on the fringes of the Taklamakan Desert and it was these people who connected China with the West; and it is on these routes that Buddhism was transmitted to China.

This paper will engage students in questions that pertain to the transmission of ideas, particularly of salvation, against a backdrop of wealth creation and territorial expansion.

Course Outcomes

CO .1 An understanding of the different ethnic and linguistic groups that people the region, their cultural and political ties.

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- CO .2 An introduction to Buddhism in the Kaśmīr-Gandhāran region: doctrines, sacred geography and art – all aspects which influenced the transmission to.
- CO .3 Case studies of a few journeys that will bring insights into the lived human experience;
- CO .4 Material Culture on the Silk Route: relationship between objects, people and culture.

Module No.	Unit No.	Topics	Hours
1.0		People on the Silk Route	12
	1.1	Xiongnu, Śakas and Yuezhi	
	1.2	Bactrians and Sogdians	
	1.3	Tibetans, Indians and Chinese	
2.0		Persia, Tibet and the Kaśmīr-Gandhāran Region	16
	2.1	Myths, Religion and Culture	
	2.2	Trade and Patronage	
	2.3	Sacred Geography and Imagined Biography	
3.0		City States and Journeys	16
	3.1	Loyang; Chang'an; Kashgar, Khotan, Kucha, and Dunhuang	
	3.2	Zhang Qian: Opening up the Western Regions	
	3.3	Faxian, Xuanzang: In Search of Vinaya and the Doctrine	
4.0		Material Culture	16
	4.1	Manuscripts : Gandharan birch bark scrolls, Gilgit manuscripts,	
	4.2	Silk and Jade	
	4.3	Monk's Robes	
		Total	60

Recommended books:

Sr. No.	Name/s of Author/s	Title of Book	Name of Publisher with country	Edition and Year of Publication
1	Anderl, Christop	Linking Khotan and Dūnhuáng: Buddhist Narratives in Text and Image in Entangled Religions, Vol 5	Ceres, Ruhr Universitat, Germany	2018
2	Brancaccio, P and Behrendt, K	Gandharan Buddhism	UCB Press, Toronto, Canada	2006
3	Beckwith, C	The Tibetan Empire in Central Asia A History of the Struggle for Great Power among Tibetans, Turks, Arabs, and Chinese during the Early Middle Ages	Princeton University Press, USA	1993
4	Beckwith, C	Empires of the Silk Road	Princeton University Press, USA	2009

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5	Elverskog, J	Buddhism and Islam on the Silk Road	University of Pennsylvania Press	2010
6	Foltz, R	Religions of the Silk Road: Pre-modern Patterns of Globalisation	Sacred Geography	2010
7	Foltz, R	Iran in World History	Oxford University Press	2015
8	Granoff, P & Shinohara, K. (eds.)	Pilgrims, Patrons, and Place: Localizing Sanctity in Asian Religions	UBC Press, Canada	2003
9	Harmatta, Janos	History of Civilizations of Central Asia - Vol. 2: The Development of Sedentary and Nomadic Civilizations: 700 B.C. to A.D. 250	Unesco Publishing	1996 (2 nd edition)
10	Kieschnick, J	Impact of Buddhism on Chinese Material Culture	Princeton University Press, USA	2003
11	Kieschnick, J & Shahar, M	India in the Chinese Imagination: Myth, Religion and Thought	University of Pennsylvania Press, USA	2013
12	Kieschnick, J	The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval Chinese Hagiography	University of Hawai'i Press, USA	1997
13	Lamotte, E.	History of Indian Buddhism	Peeter Press, Louvain	1988
14	Liu, Xinru	The Silk Road in World History	Oxford University Press, UK	2010
15	Mair, V and Hickman, J	Reconfiguring the Silk Road	University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, USA	2014
16	MacNair, Amy	Donors of Longmen: Faith, Politics, And Patronage in Medieval Chinese Buddhist Sculpture	University of Hawaii Press	2007
17	Samad, Rafi-us	The Grandeur of Gandhara	Algora Publishing, New York, USA	2011
18	Salomon, Richard	The Buddhist Literature of Ancient Gandhara	Wisdom Publications, USA	
19	Sen, T (ed.)	Buddhism Across Asia: Networks of Intellectual, Cultural and Material Exchange	ISEAS Publishing	2014
20	Whitfield, S	Life Along the Silk Road	University of California Press	2015

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21	Willemsen, C, Dessein, B & Cox, C	Sarvastivada Buddhist Scholasticism	Brill, Leiden	1988
22	Wick, P & Rabens, P	Religions and Trade: Religious Formation, Transformation and Cross-Cultural Exchange Between East and West	Brill, Leiden	2014
23	Willis, M	Migration, Trade and Peoples	The British Association for South Asian Studies, London	2009
24	Zurcher, E	The Buddhist Conquest of China	Brill, Leiden	2007

Course 2: Chinese Transformation of Buddhism

Course Objectives

Buddhist history in China was marked by repression, innovation and some outstanding instances of the impact of acculturation. In this course students will be interrogate the ideas of authenticity, purity, and the idea of the sacred in the context of transmission to a different culture.

Course Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, a student will

CO. 1 have an insight into the multiple forces at play when ideas, particularly religious ones, are transmitted to different cultures.

Module No.	Unit No.	Topics	Hours
1. 0		<u>Chinese Transformation of Buddhism:</u>	
	1.1	Conflicts with local traditions; repressions of Buddhism	10
	1.2	Guanyin and Amitabha	10
	1.3	Master Student Dialogue in Chinese Chan	10
		Total	30

Recommended books:

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Sr. No.	Name/s of Author/s	Title of Book	Name of Publisher with country	Edition and Year of Publication
1	Ch'en, K	The Chinese Transformation of Buddhism	Princeton Legacy Library	2017
2	Poceski, Mario	Ordinary Mind as the Way: the Hongzhou School and the Growth of Chan Buddhism	OUP	2012
3	Wang, Youru	Linguistic Strategies in Daoist Zhuangzi and Chan Buddhism	Routledge, London	2003
4	Schlutter, M	How Zen became Zen: the Dispute over Enlightenment and the Formation of Chan Buddhism in Song China	University of Hawai'i Press	2008
5	Bingenheimer, M	Island of Guanyin: Mt Putuo and Its Gazetters	OUP	2016
6	Li, Yuhang	Becoming Guanyin: Artistic devotion of Buddhist Women in late Imperial China	Columbia University press, New York	2020
7	Heine, Steven	Opening a Mountain: Koans of Zen masters	OUP	2002