

# Buddhist Studies

## Group in Buddhist Studies

The Group in Buddhist Studies is comprised primarily of faculty from the Departments of East Asian Languages & Cultures and South & Southeast Asian Studies. The group offers an interdisciplinary program of study. The program allows undergraduate students to complete a minor in Buddhist Studies. Students seeking a major with content related to Buddhism should check out the majors in either South & Southeast Asian Studies (<https://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2024-25/undergraduate/degree-programs/south-southeast-asian-studies/>) or East Asian Religion, Thought & Culture (<https://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2024-25/undergraduate/degree-programs/east-asian-religion-thought-culture/>).

Please see the minor tab for details about requirements and declaration.

Students with a strong interest in an area of study outside their major often decide to complete a minor program. These programs have set requirements.

## General Guidelines

1. All minors must be declared before the first day of classes in your Expected Graduation Term (EGT), and for summer graduates, minors must be declared before the first day of Summer Session A.
2. All upper-division courses must be taken for a letter grade.
3. A minimum of four upper-division courses must be completed at UC Berkeley to fulfill the minor requirements.
4. To fulfill the minor requirements, upper-division courses must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.
5. Courses that fulfill the minor requirements may be applied toward the Seven-Course Breadth requirement for Letters & Science students.
6. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs.
7. All minor requirements must be completed before the last day of finals during the semester the student plans to graduate. If students cannot finish all courses required for the minor by then, they should see a College of Letters & Science adviser.
8. All minor requirements must be completed within the unit ceiling. (Please see the College Requirements tab for further information regarding the unit ceiling.)

## Buddhist Studies Minor

### Declaring

Students should review the requirements and complete the prerequisite. Upon completing the prerequisite, students may apply to declare the minor online ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpndhLT\\_VVId-B\\_d59jiN7IHFDjn-wtpgtmkRYIDBIzasPQQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpndhLT_VVId-B_d59jiN7IHFDjn-wtpgtmkRYIDBIzasPQQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)). Please see the department's Minor website

(<https://buddhiststudies.berkeley.edu/buddhist-studies/undergraduate-studies-cbs/>) for advice and the latest information related to the minor.

## Requirements

### Language Prerequisite

All students must complete two courses in a relevant Asian language. Available options include Sanskrit, Chinese (Mandarin or Classical), Tibetan, Mongolian, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Khmer, and Burmese.

Proficient students may take upper-division courses in the same language or start a new language at the lower-division level. It is important to note that courses fulfilling the language requirement do not count towards the upper-division course requirement.

Students with transfer credits in a related language may also meet this prerequisite, subject to approval from the undergraduate advisor.

## Requirements

The minor in Buddhist Studies requires five upper-division courses. Notably, Buddhist Studies C50 may substitute for one of these five courses. Students must take three courses within the Department of Buddhist Studies. Additionally, two electives must be chosen from relevant courses offered by the Departments of Buddhist Studies, East Asian Languages & Cultures, South & Southeast Asian Studies, or History of Art.

## Buddhist Studies Courses

Select three courses in Buddhist Studies		12
BUDDSTD 50	Introduction to the Study of Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C11	Buddhist Thought in India [4]	
BUDDSTD C11	Tibetan Buddhism [4]	
	or BUDDSTI	Tibetan Buddhism
BUDDSTD C11	Buddhism and its Culture in Japan [4]	
BUDDSTD C11	Buddhism in China [4]	
BUDDSTD C11	Mongolian Buddhism [4]	
BUDDSTD C12	Buddhism on the Silk Road [4]	
BUDDSTD C12	Buddhism and the Environment [4]	
BUDDSTD C12	Buddhism in Contemporary Society [4]	
	or BUDDSTI	Buddhism in Contemporary Society
BUDDSTD C13	Zen Buddhism [4]	
BUDDSTD C13	Pure Land Buddhism [4]	
BUDDSTD C13	Mantric Traditions of Asia [4]	
BUDDSTD 137	Buddhist Art and Archaeology along the Maritime & Overland Silk Routes	4
BUDDSTD C14	Readings in Chinese Buddhist Texts [4]	
BUDDSTD C14	Introductory Readings in Kanbun [4]	
BUDDSTD 150	Course Not Available [4]	
BUDDSTD C152	Buddhist Astral Science	4
BUDDSTD C152	Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism [4]	
	or BUDDSTD C151	Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism
BUDDSTD C158	Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy	4
BUDDSTD 190	Topics in the Study of Buddhism [4]	

## Electives

### Select two elective courses

BUDDSTD C50	Introduction to the Study of Buddhism or BUDDSTD 5 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C113	Buddhist Thought in India	4
BUDDSTD C114	Tibetan Buddhism or BUDDSTD 1 Tibetan Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C116	Buddhism in China or BUDDSTD 1 Tibetan Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C117	Mongolian Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C118	Buddhism in Modern China	4
BUDDSTD C120	Buddhism on the Silk Road	4
BUDDSTD C126	Buddhism and the Environment	4
BUDDSTD C128	Buddhism in Contemporary Society or BUDDSTD 1 Buddhism in Contemporary Society	4
BUDDSTD C130	Zen Buddhism or BUDDSTD 1 Buddhism in Contemporary Society	4
BUDDSTD C132	Pure Land Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C135	Tantric Traditions of Asia	4
BUDDSTD 137	Buddhist Art and Archaeology along the Maritime & Overland Silk Routes	4
BUDDSTD C140	Readings in Chinese Buddhist Texts	4
BUDDSTD C141	Introductory Readings in Kanbun	4
BUDDSTD C147	Introduction to Pali	4
BUDDSTD 150	Course Not Available	4
BUDDSTD C152	Buddhist Astral Science	4
BUDDSTD C154	Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism or BUDDSTD 1 Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD C158	Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy or BUDDSTD 1 Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism	4
BUDDSTD 190	Topics in the Study of Buddhism	4
CHINESE C116	Buddhism in China	4
CHINESE C118	Buddhism in Modern China	4
CHINESE C140	Readings in Chinese Buddhist Texts	4
HISTART 134A	Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Temple Art & Architecture in Japan	4
HISTART 134B	Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Icons in Japan	4
HISTART 134C	Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Art in the Modern/Contemporary World	4
EA LANG C120	Buddhism on the Silk Road	4
EA LANG C126	Buddhism and the Environment	4
EA LANG C128	Buddhism in Contemporary Society	4
EA LANG C130	Zen Buddhism	4
EA LANG C132	Pure Land Buddhism	4
EA LANG C135	Tantric Traditions of Asia	4
EA LANG C152	Buddhist Astral Science	4
JAPAN C115	Buddhism and its Culture in Japan	4
MONGOLN C117	Mongolian Buddhism	4
SASIAN C113	Buddhist Thought in India	4
SASIAN C114	Tibetan Buddhism	4

TIBETAN C114	Tibetan Buddhism	4
TIBETAN C154	Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism	4

## Buddhist Studies

### BUDDSTD 50 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2025 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2024 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2023 Second 6 Week Session  
This course will consider materials drawn from various Buddhist traditions of Asia, from ancient times to the present day. However, it is not intended to be a comprehensive or systematic survey; rather than aiming at breadth, it is designed around key themes such as ritual, image veneration, mysticism, meditation, and death. The overarching emphasis throughout the course will be on the hermeneutic difficulties attendant upon the study of religion in general, and Buddhism in particular.

#### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

#### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

### BUDDSTD C50 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023  
This introduction to the study of Buddhism will consider materials drawn from various Buddhist traditions of Asia, from ancient times down to the present day. However, the course is not intended to be a comprehensive or systematic survey; rather than aiming at breadth, the course is designed around key themes such as ritual, image veneration, mysticism, meditation, and death. The overarching emphasis throughout the course will be on the hermeneutic difficulties attendant upon the study of religion in general, and Buddhism in particular.

#### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

#### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C50/S, SEASN C52

## BUDDSTD C113 Buddhist Thought in India 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2022, Spring 2021

This course is an advanced introduction to the major teachings of Indian Buddhism and their philosophical elaborations. We will cover the core tenets attributed to the Buddha, and the later doctrinal and scholastic developments that turned Buddhism into one of the principal philosophical traditions of India. For this we will read select primary sources—in principle, extracts of the scriptures and later treatises—and academic articles and book chapters. Rather than offering a broad introductory survey of Buddhist traditions across space and time, this class is geared towards students who are already familiar with the basics of Buddhism and want to deepen their understanding of the principal teachings of Buddhism originating in India.

### Rules & Requirements

**Credit Restrictions:** Students who have passed S ASIAN C113 will not get credit for SASIAN C113.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8-8 hours of lecture and 0-2 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** SASIAN C113

## BUDDSTD 114 Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2018 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2016 Second 6 Week Session

This course is a broad introduction to the history, doctrine, and culture of the Buddhism of Tibet. We will begin with the introduction of Buddhism to Tibet in the eighth century and move on to the evolution of the major schools of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhist literature, ritual and monastic practice, the place of Buddhism in Tibetan political history and the contemporary situation of Tibetan Buddhism both inside and outside Tibet.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

## BUDDSTD C114 Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2020

This course is a broad introduction to the history, doctrine, and culture of the Buddhism of Tibet. We will begin with the introduction of Buddhism to Tibet in the eighth century and move on to the evolution of the major schools of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhist literature, ritual and monastic practice, the place of Buddhism in Tibetan political history, and the contemporary situation of Tibetan Buddhism both inside and outside of Tibet.

### Rules & Requirements

**Credit Restrictions:** Students who have passed S ASIAN C114 will not get credit for SASIAN C114.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** SASIAN C114/TIBETAN C114

## BUDDSTD C115 Buddhism and its Culture in Japan 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course provides a critical survey of prominent and other noteworthy expressions of Buddhist thought and culture in Japanese history. The Japanese experience of Buddhist teachings, practices and institutions, as well as aesthetic expressions in painting, sculpture, architecture, garden design, literature, and theatre will be examined against the backdrop of the transmission of all these forms of Buddhist culture from India to China to Korea to Japan. Special attention will also be given to the fusion of Buddhist and “native” Japanese sensibilities in theater (Noh, Kabuki, and Bunraku) and popular art such as ukiyo-e prints and manga.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** JAPAN C115

## BUDDSTD C116 Buddhism in China 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2019

This course is an introduction to the history of Buddhism in China from its beginnings in the early centuries CE to the present day. Through engagement with historical scholarship, primary sources in translation, and Chinese Buddhist art, we will explore the intellectual history and cultural impact of Buddhism in China. Students will also be introduced to major issues in the institutional history of Buddhism, the interactions between Buddhism and indigenous Chinese religions, and the relationship between Buddhism and the state. Previous study of Buddhism is helpful but not required.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** CHINESE C116

## BUDDSTD C117 Mongolian Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

This course covers the history of Mongolian Buddhism from its inception in the Yuan dynasty to the present. The importance of Mongolian Buddhism to the greater dharma lies not only with the ways of its priests but also with the means of its patrons, the Mongol aristocracy, in forging a distinctive tradition in Inner Asia and disseminating it throughout the world. While maintaining a historical thread throughout, this course will examine in detail some of the tradition's many facets, including Mongolian-Buddhist politics, the politics of incarnation, the establishment of monasteries, economics, work in the sciences, astral science and medicine, ritual practice, literature, sculpture and painting, music and dance, and more.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** MONGOLN C117

## BUDDSTD C118 Buddhism in Modern China 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2023, Spring 2020

Modern Chinese Buddhism emerged from a variety of reactions to the challenges posed by modernity. The course aims at introducing students to the ways in which Buddhists in China have engaged and continue to engage with a modern society and a globalized world. The course will follow the trends of Chinese Buddhism from the early twentieth century down to the most recent developments in the present. In exploring modern constructions of Buddhism in China, we will distinguish between modernism and modernity, and investigate how Chinese Buddhists introduced reforms and innovations, while also attempting to maintain continuity with traditional ideals and modes of practice.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** CHINESE C118

## BUDDSTD C120 Buddhism on the Silk Road 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course will discuss the social, economic, and cultural aspects of Buddhism as it moved along the ancient Eurasian trading network referred to as the "Silk Road". Instead of relying solely on textual sources, the course will focus on material culture as it offers evidence concerning the spread of Buddhism. Through an examination of the Buddhist archaeological remains of the Silk Road, the course will address specific topics, such as the symbiotic relationship between Buddhism and commerce; doctrinal divergence; ideological shifts in the iconography of the Buddha; patronage (royal, religious and lay); Buddhism and political power; and art and conversion. All readings will be in English.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam not required.

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C120

## BUDDSTD C126 Buddhism and the Environment 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2011, Fall 2009, Spring 2008

A thematic course on Buddhist perspectives on nature and Buddhist responses to environmental issues. The first half of the course focuses on East Asian Buddhist cosmological and doctrinal perspectives on the place of the human in nature and the relationship between the salvific goals of Buddhism and nature. The second half of the course examines Buddhist ethics, economics, and activism in relation to environmental issues in contemporary Southeast Asia, East Asia, and America.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** One lower-division course in Buddhist Studies or consent of instructor

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C126

## BUDDSTD 128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2015 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 First 6 Week Session

A study of the Buddhist tradition as it is found today in Asia. The course will focus on specific living traditions of East, South, and/or Southeast Asia. Themes to be addressed may include contemporary Buddhist ritual practices; funerary and mortuary customs; the relationship between Buddhism and other local religious traditions; the relationship between Buddhist institutions and the state; Buddhist monasticism and its relationship to the laity; Buddhist ethics; Buddhist "modernism," and so on.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** von Rospatt

## BUDDSTD C128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

A study of the Buddhist tradition as it is found today in Asia. The course will focus on specific living traditions of East, South, and/or Southeast Asia. Themes to be addressed may include contemporary Buddhist ritual practices; funerary and mortuary customs; the relationship between Buddhism and other local religious traditions; the relationship between Buddhist institutions and the state; Buddhist monasticism and its relationship to the laity; Buddhist ethics; Buddhist "modernism," and so on.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** von Rospatt

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C128/S, SEASN C145

## BUDDSTD C130 Zen Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2013, Spring 2010

This course will introduce students to the Zen Buddhist traditions of China and Japan, drawing on a variety of disciplinary perspectives (history, anthropology, philosophy, and so on). The course will also explore a range of hermeneutic problems (problems involved in interpretation) entailed in understanding a sophisticated religious tradition that emerged in a time and culture very different from our own.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** One lower division course in Asian religion recommended

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** Sharf

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C130



## BUDDSTD C132 Pure Land Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2019, Fall 2017

This course will discuss the historical development of the Pure Land school of East Asian Buddhism, the largest form of Buddhism practiced today in China and Japan. The curriculum is divided into India, China, and Japan sections, with the second half of the course focusing exclusively on Japan where this form of religious culture blossomed most dramatically, covering the ancient, medieval, and modern periods. The curriculum will begin with a reading of the core scriptures that form the basis of the belief system and then move into areas of cultural expression. The course will follow two basic trajectories over the centuries: doctrine/philosophy and culture/society.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required, with common exam group.

**Instructor:** Blum

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C132

## BUDDSTD C135 Tantric Traditions of Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2013, Spring 2010

The emergence of the tantras in seventh and eighth-century India marked a watershed for religious practice throughout Asia. These esoteric scriptures introduced complex new ritual technologies that transformed the religious traditions of India, from Brahmanism to Jainism and Buddhism, as well as those of Southeast Asia, Tibet, Mongolia, China, Korea, and Japan. This course provides an overview of tantric religion across these regions.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** Dalton

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C135/S, SEASN C135

## BUDDSTD 137 Buddhist Art and Archaeology along the Maritime & Overland Silk Routes 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018

The main aim of this course is to provide a multi-disciplinary approach by exploring the origins, development and diffusion of Buddhist art and archaeology along the maritime and overland trade routes chronologically and geographically through the combined study of archaeological records (excavations, pottery, glass, seals, coins, etc.) and key religious texts and epigraphy. This course will attempt to show how the spread of Buddhism from South Asia to Southeast Asia is closely connected with the growth of the maritime and overland networks based on trade that facilitated the movement of Buddhist merchants, travelling monks and teachers.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

## BUDDSTD C140 Readings in Chinese Buddhist Texts 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2020, Spring 2016

This course is an introduction to the study of medieval Buddhist literature written in classical Chinese. We will read samples from a variety of genres, including early Chinese translations of Sanskrit and Central Asian Buddhist scriptures, indigenous Chinese commentaries, philosophical treatises, and sectarian works, including Chan (Zen koans). The course will also serve as an introduction to resource materials used in the study of Chinese Buddhist texts, and students will be expected to make use of a variety of reference tools in preparation for class. Readings in Chinese will be supplemented by a range of secondary readings in English on Mahayana doctrine and Chinese Buddhist history.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Chinese 110A; or one semester of classical Chinese. Prior background in Buddhist history and thought is helpful, but not required

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** CHINESE C140

## BUDDSTD C141 Introductory Readings in Kanbun 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Fall 2020, Fall 2018

Introductory reading class focusing on premodern texts written in Kanbun, the Japanese way of reading and writing Classical Chinese.

The first half focuses on the orthography and syntax of Kanbun, primarily using examples from military texts from the medieval period. The second half focuses on writings considered artistic, religious (Buddhist), literary, historical, biographical, or ritualistic in nature, including snapshots of doctrinal statements by influential thinkers in the Buddhist tradition. In that Kanbun is Chinese in format but was nearly always read in Classical Japanese word order, this fulfills the Japanese-major requirement of a second semester of Classical Japanese.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Japanese 120. One semester of classical Japanese. Prior background in Buddhist history and thought is helpful, but not required

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** Blum

**Also listed as:** JAPAN C141

## BUDDSTD C147 Introduction to Pali 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022

This seminar introduces Pali grammar, paleography, and basic canonical and commentarial

genres for those with previous training in Sanskrit. Our focus will be on building reading skills

with Roman-script texts as well as Pali manuscripts in several Southeast Asian scripts housed in campus library collections.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

**Also listed as:** SSEASN C147

## BUDDSTD C150 The Origins and Development of Buddhist Art in South Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

Rather than offering a comprehensive survey, this course deals with select themes that shed light on the origins, development and diffusion of Buddhist art chronologically and geographically through a combined study that considers the archaeological record (excavations, coins, etc.), key religious texts and epigraphy. Typical themes will be the early notion of aniconism and the evolution of iconic art (Buddha and bodhisattva images); the depiction of Jatakas and other narratives in reliefs and painting; the cave sculptures of the Western Deccan; tantric art, temples and monasteries; the art, archaeology and architecture of South India and Sri Lanka; Indic Buddhist monuments in South-East Asia such as Bagan in Burma, Borobudur, and Angkor.

### Rules & Requirements

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

**Formerly known as:** Buddhist Studies 150

**Also listed as:** SASIAN C150

## BUDDSTD C152 Buddhist Astral Science 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course studies the purview of astral science under Buddhist dominion. Here it is at once promoted for promulgating Buddhist world order and repudiated for begetting the suffering-inducing physical universe, a warped vessel of ceaselessly turning stars that the Buddhist dharma must transcend. The course begins with the part astral science plays in genesis, the creation of Buddhist world order. It then covers the science's central aspects, celestial systems, spatial orientation, time reckoning, the making of a calendar, and publication of an almanac. Thereafter, it treats the science's outgrowth into interrelated forms of Buddhist propaganda manifest as divination, magic, medicine, ritual, scripture, and iconography.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Also listed as:** EA LANG C152

## BUDDSTD 154 Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2013 First 6 Week Session

Tibetan Buddhists view the moment of death as a rare opportunity for transformation. This course examines how Tibetans have used death and dying in the path to enlightenment. Readings will address how Tibetan funerary rituals work to assist the dying toward this end, and how Buddhist practitioners prepare for this crucial moment through tantric meditation, imaginative rehearsals, and explorations of the dream state.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** Dalton

## BUDDSTD C154 Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2014

Tibetan Buddhists view the moment of death as a rare opportunity for transformation. This course examines how Tibetans have used death and dying in the path to enlightenment. Readings will address how Tibetan funerary rituals work to assist the dying toward this end, and how Buddhist practitioners prepare for this crucial moment through tantric meditation, imaginative rehearsals, and explorations of the dream state.

### Rules & Requirements

**Credit Restrictions:** Students receiving credit for S ASIAN C154 will not get credit for SASIAN C154.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructor:** Dalton

**Also listed as:** SASIAN C154/TIBETAN C154

## BUDDSTD C158 Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2023

This is an introduction to Buddhist philosophy, extending from its origins (as preserved in the early s#tra literature), down through its evolution into multiple competing philosophical traditions (Abhidharma, Madhyamaka, Yog#c#ra, Pram##av#da, and so on). We will explore Buddhist approaches to issues in epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, language, and ethics. One theme running through the course will be radical skepticism; we will explore how Buddhist philosophers questioned not only the existence of an enduring or essential self but also the existence of an external (mind-independent) world, and how their analyses impacted their understandings of meaning in language, their accounts of the nature and function of consciousness.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** There are no formal requirements, but a prior course in either philosophy or Buddhist studies is recommended

**Credit Restrictions:** Students will receive no credit for BUDDSTD C158 after completing BUDDSTD 158. A deficient grade in BUDDSTD C158 may be removed by taking BUDDSTD 158.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Formerly known as:** Philosophy C158/Buddhist Studies C158

**Also listed as:** PHILOS C158

## BUDDSTD 190 Topics in the Study of Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Summer 2021 Second 6 Week Session

This course will focus on specific themes, developments, and issues in the study of Buddhism. The course is intended to supplement our regular curricular offerings, and the content will change from semester to semester.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Some prior study of Buddhism or Asian culture is recommended

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Summer:** 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Buddhist Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.