

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Division of Humanities
HUMA2840: Buddhism and the Chinese Intellectual Tradition
Spring 2020

Lecturer: Professor Simon WONG

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Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:30 pm (Room 3354)

Teaching Assistant:

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Course Description:

Buddhism as an Indian religion encountered with the Chinese intellectual tradition, the outcome of which was the establishment of the main schools of Buddhism in China. This course will introduce the basic ideas of Buddhism, the main schools of Buddhism in China and their historical development. Some representative work will be selected and discussed.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, students will: 1. acquire basic technique of writing an academic report; 2. be able to identify, remember and explain key concepts of the spirit, development and basic doctrines of Buddhism as well as the main schools of Chinese Buddhism; 3. be able to compare and contrast different theories in Chinese Buddhism and evaluate the significance of these theories; 4. be able to evaluate and apply the Chinese Buddhist philosophy they have learnt to reflect upon different aspects of their lives and behaviour.

Tentative Schedule of Lectures:

Weeks 1-2 Introduction
The life of the Buddha
The basic teachings of the Buddha
The development of Buddhism in India
3-4 Buddhism in China
Early development
The seven schools on “emptiness”
Seng-chao and his writings
5-12 The Schools of Buddhism in China
The Three Treatise School
The Consciousness-Only School
The T’ien-t’ai School
The Hua-yen School
The Ch’an School
The Pure Land School
The Tantric School
The Disciplinary School
13 Buddhism after the T’ang Dynasty

Course Evaluation:

Essay 45%; an essay about 2,500 words in length is due by May 12, 2020.

Late essay will be penalized.

Final Examination 40%

Attendance and participation 15%

Basic Texts:

屈大成，《佛學概論》。台北：文津出版社，2002。

廖明活，《中國佛教思想述要》。台北：台灣商務印書館，2006。

中國佛教協會編，《中國佛教》，五冊。北京：知識出版社，1989。