**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**

REQUEST FOR ADDITION, EXPIRATION,
 OR REVISION OF AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE
(10000-40000 LEVEL)

A&S CCD#11-11

DEPARTMENT: Philosophy  EFFECTIVE SESSION: Spring 2012

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please check the items below which describe the purpose of this request:

| 1. New course with supporting documents | 7. Change in course attributes (department head signature only) |
| 2. Add existing course offered at another campus | 8. Change in instructional hours |
| 3. Expiration of a course | 9. Change in course description |
| 4. Change in course number | 10. Change in course requisites |
| 5. Change in course title | 11. Change in semesters offered (department head signature only) |
| 6. Change in course credit/type | 12. Transfer from one department to another |

**PROPOSED:**

Subject Abbreviation: REL  Course Number: 49300

Long Title: Undergraduate Seminar  Short Title: Undergraduate Seminar

**EXISTING:**

Subject Abbreviation  Course Number

**TERMS OFFERED:**

Check All That Apply:

- [ ] Summer
- [ ] Fall
- [ ] Spring

**CAMPUS(ES) INVOLVED:**

- [ ] National Center
- [ ] Field Ed
- [ ] Tech State-Wide
- [ ] W. Lafayette
- [ ] Indianapolis

**CREDIT TYPE:**

1. Fixed Credit Crs. Hrs.:

2. Variable Credit Range:
   - Minimum Crs. Hrs.:
   - Maximum Crs. Hrs.:

3. Equivalent Credit:
   - Yes
   - No

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**COURSE ATTRIBUTES:**

- [ ] Pass/Not Pass Only
- [ ] Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Only
- [ ] Repeatable...

- [ ] Maximum Repeatable Credit: 6
- [ ] Honors
- [ ] Full Time Privilege
- [ ] Off Campus Experience

**COURSE DESCRIPTION (INCLUDE REQUIREMENTS/RESTRICTIONS):**

Intensive examination of selected topics in Religious studies. Topic varies. May be taken twice with different topics. P: consent of instructor.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Dependent on topic.

**SIGNED OFFICIALS:**

Chair: Department Head  Date: 04/16/2011

Carroll School Dean  Date: 04/16/2011

Fort Wayne Department Head  Date: 04/16/2011

Fort Wayne School Dean  Date: 04/16/2011

Indianapolis Department Head  Date: 04/16/2011

Indianapolis School Dean  Date: 04/16/2011

North Central Faculty Senate Chair  Date: 04/16/2011

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  Date: 04/16/2011

West Lafayette Department Head  Date: 04/16/2011

West Lafayette College/School Dean  Date: 04/16/2011

West Lafayette Registrar  Date: 04/16/2011

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
From the beginning of their tradition in India, Buddhists have advocated the careful use of reason and argumentation as a means of investigating and demonstrating religious truths. Through close reading of primary philosophical texts—as well as historical and ethnographic works on Buddhist monasticism and scholasticism—this course examines the origin of Buddhist philosophical traditions in India, their development in the various philosophical “schools” of Tibet, and their unique instantiations in China and Japan. In the process, we will explore Buddhist conceptions of metaphysics, ethics, logical reasoning, epistemology, philosophy of language, and philosophy of mind. In addition to reading and discussing key Buddhist texts on these topics, we will see how Buddhist philosophy was—and still remains—a living tradition shaped through scholasticism, debate, contemplative practices, and religious experiences. It is expected that students taking this course will have previous experience in the academic study of religion or philosophy.

Course Objectives

- to understand the primary concerns, objectives, and modes of argumentation found across a diverse body of philosophical literature;
- to understand the basic historical development of Buddhist philosophical traditions from their inception in India to their subsequent development and proliferation in Tibet;
- to contextualize Buddhist philosophical traditions within the cultural milieu in which they arose and thrived;
- to become conversant with emic concepts essential to the understanding of “philosophy” and “religion” in Asia;
- to challenge commonly held assumptions about Buddhist traditions by integrating the study of living traditions of practice with the study of primary texts.
Required Texts

- King, Richard. *Indian Philosophy*
- Siderits, Mark. *Buddhism as Philosophy*
- Cozort, Daniel and Craig Preston. *Buddhist Philosophy*
- Nagarjuna. *Seventy Stanzas* (David Ross Komito, trans.)
- Shantideva. *Bodhicaryavatara* (Kate Crosby and Andrew Skilton, trans.)
- readings available via Electronic Reserve

Assessment of Final Grade

- class participation & discussion leading (10%)
- twelve 1-page response papers (5% each = 60%)
- final paper (30%)

Schedule of Classes and Assigned Readings

**Week 1: Introduction to the Course and to “Buddhism”**

1: Approaches to the Study of “Buddhist Philosophy”

**Week 2: The Indian Context**

1: The Six *Darshana* of Indian Philosophy [86 pages]
   read: King, *Indian Philosophy*, Chs. 1-3; Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, pp. 85-97

**Week 3: Early Buddhist Philosophy**

1: The Life and Doctrine of the Buddha [62 pages]
   read: deBary, “Life of the Buddha as a Way of Salvation” (pp. 55-72); Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, Chs. 1-2; *Saccasamyyutta* “Connected Discourses on the Truths” (pp. 1838-1852)

**Week 4: Buddhist Metaphysics I**

1: Fundamental Arguments [77 pages]
   read: Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, Ch. 3, King, *Indian Philosophy*, Ch. 4; *Alagaddapama Sutta* “Simile of the Snake” (pp. 224-236)

**Week 5: Buddhist Ethics**

1: Training in Moral Discipline [75 pages]
   read: Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, Ch. 4; Keown, “Aspects of Sila”; *Bahitika Sutta* “The Cloak” (pp. 723-726); Harvey, “Suicide and Euthanasia”

**Week 6: Buddhist Metaphysics II**

1: The Doctrine of Emptiness [63 pages]
   read: Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, Ch. 9; Nagarjuna, *Mulamadhyamakakarika*, Chs. 1, 8, 15, & 18 (with commentary)

**Week 7: Philosophy of the Mahayana**

1: The Mahayana Philosophies of Shantideva [100 pages]
   read: Siderits, *Buddhist Philosophy*, Ch. 7; Shantideva, *Bodhicaryavatara*, Chs. 1, 3-4, 6, 8-10
Week 8: Philosophy as Practice
1: Overview of Tenets and Monastic Debate [114 pages]
   read: Cozort & Preston, Buddhist Philosophy (pp. 1-81); Dreyfus, The Sound of Two Hands Clapping (pp. 111-128, 200-217)

Week 9:
1: NO CLASS (Spring Recess)

Week 10: Buddhist Epistemology I
1: Abhidhamma and the "Hinayana" Systems [105 pages]
   read: Siderits, Buddhist Philosophy, Ch. 6; Cozort & Preston, Buddhist Philosophy, "Vaibhashika" & "Sautrantika" (pp. 143-164); Perdue, Debate in Tibetan Buddhism (pp. 267-321)

Week 11: Buddhist Epistemology II
1: Cittamatra (Mind-Only) System [89 pages]
   read: Cozort & Preston, Buddhist Philosophy (pp. 165-200); Siderits, Buddhist Philosophy, Chs. 8 & 10

Week 12: Buddhist Epistemology III
1: The Svatantrika and Prasangika Madhyamaka Systems [85 pages]
   read: Cozort & Preston, Buddhist Philosophy (pp. 200-285)

Week 13: Philosophical Commentary
1: Nagarjuna's Philosophy of Language [115 pages]
   read: Nagarjuna, Seventy Stanzas and Commentary (pp. 77-182)

Week 14: Philosophy of Buddhahood in the Five Orders of Tibetan Buddhism I
1: Reason and Realization [86 pages]
   read: Tsongkhapa, "Insight Requires Analysis" (pp. 327-350); Rangjung Dorje, In Praise of Dharmadhatu (pp. 206-244); Longchenpa, Precious Treasury of the Way of Abiding (pp. 165-190)

Week 15: Philosophy of Buddhahood in the Five Orders of Tibetan Buddhism II
1: The Ontology of the Nature of Mind [77 pages]
   read: Mipham, "Lion's Roar Proclaiming Extrinsic Emptiness" (415-427); Rangjung Dorje, "The Ornament that Explains the Dharmadharma-vibhaga" (pp. 171-191); Dolpopa, "The Fourth Council" (pp. 127-155); Gorampa, "Refutation of Dolpopa" (pp. 97-114)

Week 16: Conclusions
1: Catch Up and Conclude
   read: none

Final Paper due date: [TBA]
On Participation and Attendance:

Participation in group activities and in class discussions is expected. In order to be able to participate in these activities and discussions, it is essential that you come to class prepared—that is, you closely read any assigned materials and you bring those materials with you to class. Needless to say, if you are not in attendance or if you are asleep, it will not be possible for you to participate. I hope that our discussions are intellectually stimulating and challenging. Because philosophy and religion can be both controversial and personal topics, please be very aware of the important distinction between respectful and disrespectful forms of argumentation. While debate is highly encouraged, statements that make another person feel uncomfortable will not be tolerated.

On Academic Accommodations for those with Disabilities:

In accordance with IPFW’s policies, I am available to discuss appropriate requests for academic accommodations for students with disabilities. If you are in need of such accommodations, please contact me immediately (i.e. this week) so that arrangements can be made. Students seeking accommodations are required to bring documentation from the Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb Union 113, 260.481.6657).

*course syllabus is subject to change*