

PHIL 399: INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY IN INDIA

Dr. Joerg Tuske
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CONTACT
Salisbury University
Department of Philosophy
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801-6068
USA
Tel: +1-410-677 5369
Email: jptuske@salisbury.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will be offered during the 2015 Intersession in India study abroad program. It will consist of classroom instruction at the University of Pune, as well as extended excursions to Indian national parks, urban areas, historic archaeological sites and other places of interest.

Buddhism is a philosophy and a world religion that originated on the Indian subcontinent and spread all over Asia and beyond. In this course you will study some of the fundamental teachings of the historical Buddha as well as later Buddhist Philosophers of what is called the “classical period” of Indian Buddhism. In addition, you will have an opportunity to practice Buddhist meditation. Some emphasis will be placed on the role of Buddhism as a means to achieve social change. While most Buddhist texts are written in Pali and Sanskrit, you will be studying the material in English translations. Students may receive credit for both PHIL 323 and this course. This course meets the General Education requirement for groups IIIA or IIIC.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should have a good understanding of the theoretical and practical aspects of Buddhist philosophy and they should be able to use rudimentary Hindi. Most importantly, this course provides students with the opportunity to study an aspect of Indian culture in its original context. As such, it forms part of the drive for a multicultural education.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) *Hindi language test (20% of the final grade).*
- 2) *Final presentation (70% of the final grade).* Topics will be assigned in class.
- 3) *Attendance and participation (10% of the final grade).* All students will be expected to attend all class meetings and excursions. If you must miss any scheduled class meeting or excursion, you must get approval from the instructor ahead of time. Failure to do so will result in a reduction in your participation grade.

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

This course supports the writing across the curriculum goals of Salisbury University. All written work will be evaluated both on its content and the quality of writing.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Any special needs will be accommodated as much as possible, given the resources of Salisbury University and the University of Pune.

READING

Background reading:

The Dhammapada (various editions)
Gethin, R., *The Foundations of Buddhism*, (Oxford University Press, 1998)
Hesse, H., *Siddhartha* (various editions)
Siderits, M., *Buddhism as Philosophy: An Introduction*, (Indianapolis: Hackett, 2007)

Additional readings will be set in class.

GENERAL ITINERARY (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

Monday, December 29 th	Arrive in Mumbai; bus to Pune; Tour of neighborhood
Tuesday, December 30 th	Bus tour of Pune; rest
Wednesday, December 31 st	Hindi immersion day
Thursday, January 1 st	Hindi immersion day
Friday, January 2 nd	Class day (meditation in the morning, followed by 1 hour of Hindi and 2 hours of

	Buddhist Philosophy); leave for Aurangabad in the afternoon
Saturday, January 3 rd	Aurangabad/Ajanta Class day
Sunday, January 4 th	Ellora; back to Pune in the afternoon
Monday, January 5 th	Class day;
Tuesday, January 6 th	Class day;
Wednesday, January 7 th	Class day
Thursday, January 8 th	Class day
Friday, January 9 th	Class day
Saturday, January 10 th	Rest/study
Sunday, January 11 th	Rest/study
Monday, January 12 th	Class day
Tuesday, January 13 th	Class day
Wednesday, January 14 th	Class day
Thursday, January 15 th	Class day
Friday, January 16 th	Exams; train to Nagpur in the evening
Saturday, January 17 th	Arrive in Nagpur; bus to Sevagram
Sunday, January 18 th	Sevagram/Nagpur morning; bus to Pench Tiger Reserve
Monday, January 19 th	Pench
Tuesday, January 20 th	Pench
Wednesday, January 21 st	Bus to Nagpur, Fly to Mumbai
Thursday, January 22 nd	Mumbai; fly back to US early morning on 23 rd

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Day/Date	10.00 am to 11.00 am	11.00 am to 12.00 pm
Friday, 02/01/2013	Lecture-1 Buddha's quest for enlightenment and his general approach (Ariyapariyesanasutta, Mahasaccakasutta, Kalamasutta, Vimamsakasutta, Culamalunkyasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar	Lecture-2 Buddha's quest for enlightenment and his general approach (Ariyapariyesanasutta, Mahasaccakasutta, Kalamasutta, Vimamsakasutta, Culamalunkyasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar
Monday, 05/01/2013	Lecture-3 Vedic, Upanishadic Background & Buddha's response to it. (Kutadanatasutta and Tevijjasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar	Lecture-4 Other contemporary philosophical sects (Samannaphalasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar

Tuesday, 06/01/2013	Lecture-5 Main teachings: Four Noble Truths, Trilaksana, Pratiyasamutpada, Nirvana, Arya-Astangikamarga (Dhammacakkapavvattanasutta, Annattalakkhannasutta Pratiyasamutpadasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar	Lecture-6 Main teachings: Four Noble Truths, Trilaksana, Pratiyasamutpada, Nirvana, Arya-Astangikamarga (Dhammacakkapavvattanasutta, Annattalakkhannasutta, Pratiyasamutpadasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar
Wednesday, 07/01/2013	Lecture-7 Buddhist Meditation: Samatha, Brahmavihara, Vipassana & Satipatthana. (Tevijjasutta, Mahasatipatthanasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar	Lecture-8 Buddhist Meditation: Samatha, Brahmavihara, Vipassana & Satipatthana. (Tevijjasutta, Mahasatipatthanasutta) by Prof. Mahesh A. Deokar
Thursday, 08/01/2013	Lecture-9 Dr. Ambedkar's Socio-Political Thought by Dr. Yashwant Sumant	Lecture-10 Dr. Ambedkar's Socio-Political Thought by Dr. Yashwant Sumant
Friday, 09/01/2013	Lecture-11 Dr. Ambedkar & M. Gandhi by Dr. Yashwant Sumant	Lecture-12 Dr. Ambedkar & M. Gandhi by Dr. Yashwant Sumant
Monday, 12/01/2013	Lecture-13 Dr. Ambedkar's Interpretation of Buddhism by Dr. Lata Chhatre	Lecture-14 Dr. Ambedkar's Interpretation of Buddhism by Dr. Lata Chhatre
Tuesday, 13/01/2013	Lecture-15 Schools of Buddhism by Dr. Lata Chhatre	Lecture-16 Schools of Buddhism by Dr. Lata Chhatre
Wednesday 14/01/2013	Lecture-17 Buddhist Epistemology and Logic by Dr. Lata Chhatre	Lecture-18 Buddhist Epistemology and Logic by Dr. Lata Chhatre
Thursday, 15/01/2013	Seminar hours	Seminar hours
Friday, 16/01/2013	Exams	Exams