

UC 11843 12F ✓

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

APPROVED MAR 27 2013

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Council <input type="checkbox"/> New Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Course Change Core Category: <u>WID</u> Effective Fall <u>2014</u>	or	Graduate/Professional Studies Council <input type="checkbox"/> New Course <input type="checkbox"/> Course Change Effective Fall <u>2014</u>
--	----	---

- Department: RELS College: CLASS
- Faculty Contact Person: Lois Zamora Telephone: 3-3781 Email: lzamora@uh.edu
- Course Information on New/Revised course:
 - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
RELS / 2360 / Introduction to Buddhism
 - Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)
RELS / 2360 / INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
 - SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 38.0202.00 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0
- Justification for adding/changing course: To meet core curriculum requirements
- Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course? Yes No
If Yes, please complete:
 - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
____/____/____
 - Course ID: _____ Effective Date (currently active row): _____
- Authorized Degree Program(s): RELS
 - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department? Yes No
 - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments? Yes No
 - Can the course be repeated for credit? Yes No (if yes, include in course description)
- Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture ONLY (Note: Lect/Lab info. must match item 3, above.)
- If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title
RELS / 2360 / INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
 - Course ID: _____ Effective Date (currently active row): _____
- Proposed Catalog Description: (If there are no prerequisites, type in "none".)
Cr: 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: ENGL 1304 or ENGL 1310 Description (30 words max.): Introduction to Buddhist thought, practice, culture(s), and history. Traces the historical development of Buddhism and examines a variety of Buddhist traditions. Assessments for Social Responsibility and Personal Responsibility
- Dean's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Print/Type Name: Sarah Fishman

REQUEST FOR COURSES IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Originating Department or College: Comparative Cultural Studies, CLASS

Person Making Request: Lois Zamora Telephone: 33781

Email: lzamora@uh.edu

Dean's Signature: _____ Date: September 10, 2012

Course Number and Title: RELS 2360: Introduction to Buddhism

Please attach in separate documents:

Completed CBM003 Add/Change Form with Catalog Description

Syllabus

List the student learning outcomes for the course (Statements of what students will know and be able to do as a result of taking this course. See appended hints for constructing these statements):

- 1) Students will have an understanding of the study of religions as an interdisciplinary academic field;
- 2) Students will develop understanding of Buddhist practices through critical analysis of sacred texts;
- 3) Students will further their understanding of Buddhism by focusing their writing on cultural, ethnographic and historical materials;
- 4) Writing skills will be developed throughout the course as students work with the professor and university writing resource services in areas including conceptualization (invention), organization, feedback, draft revisions, and oral presentation of written work to class groups and/or instructor.

Component Area for which the course is being proposed (check one):

Communication

American History

Mathematics

Government/Political

Science

Language, Philosophy, & Culture

Social & Behavioral Science

- Creative Arts
- Life & Physical Sciences

WID X Component Area Option

Competency areas addressed by the course (refer to appended chart for competencies that are required and optional in each component area):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Critical Thinking | <input type="checkbox"/> Teamwork |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication Skills | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Responsibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Empirical & Quantitative Skills | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Responsibility |

Because we will be assessing student learning outcomes across multiple core courses, assessments assigned in your course must include assessments of the core competencies. For each competency checked above, indicated the specific course assignment(s) which, when completed by students, will provide evidence of the competency. Provide detailed information, such as copies of the paper or project assignment, copies of individual test items, etc. A single assignment may be used to provide data for multiple competencies.

Critical Thinking:

This course serves as a WID Component Area Option, and for this reason, writing assignments are the primary mode of developing critical skills in cross-cultural understanding, and knowledge of Buddhism's philosophy and practice. Writing assignments are designed to develop organizational and analytical skills. The process of writing, as well as the produce, will be emphasized. There is extensive discussion of the Writing Assignments and the Final Paper on page 3 of the attached syllabus. Papers will be turned it to the class Turnitin.com website.

For example, for the short paper assignments, you'll see that students are asked to work on each of the papers over a three-week period. This allows them to follow the writing process step by step to conclusion, making them aware that writing is 1) a process with a logical progression of steps, 2) that the process can be reproduced not matter what the subject matter, and 3) that it takes time to write and re-write! As for content, students select their own topics relevant to the reading and lectures during the three-week period when they work on each paper; selecting the topic is a necessary early step in the process that is being taught in this class. As stated in the prefatory material of the syllabus, students are asked to think critically, using writing as a tool for thinking, about how every religion arises within a particular environment, and how it develops according to that originary environment and successive others. The syllabus states, and asks students to ponder in their written assignments: "When you explore a religion's context, you'll find that seemingly mystifying aspects fo that tradition often become more comprehensible." That is the aim of this course: to make Buddhism more comprehensible through writing.

Communication Skills:

Students will develop communication skills specific to religious studies by working through all stages of the writing process: Invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing and presentation.

Empirical & Quantitative Skills:

Click here to enter text.

Teamwork:

Click here to enter text.

Social Responsibility:

The issues raised in this course address the nature of social responsibility. Religious Studies has as its core value the consideration of communal interactions in the context of religious belief systems.

Personal Responsibility:

The fundamental concern of Religious Studies as an academic discipline is the responsibility of the human person for him/herself and for his/her community (local, national, global). The intersection of science and religion raises questions of medical, biological, environmental and political import. This course is oriented toward questions of personal responsibility in these areas.

Will the syllabus vary across multiple section of the course? Yes No

If yes, list the assignments that will be constant across sections:

Click here to enter text.

Inclusion in the core is contingent upon the course being offered and taught at least once every other academic year. Courses will be reviewed for renewal every 5 years.

The department understands that instructors will be expected to provide student work and to participate in university-wide assessments of student work. This could include, but may not be limited to, designing instruments such as rubrics, and scoring work by students in this or other courses. In addition, instructors of core courses may be asked to include brief assessment activities in their course.

Dept. Signature: _____

Rey Trevino for Lynn Mitchell

RELS 2360 Introduction to Buddhism

Instructor:

Contact Information:

Class Room/Days/Times

Course Description

The course is an introduction to Buddhist thought, practice, culture(s), and history. It traces the historical development of Buddhism and examines a variety of Buddhist traditions such as Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana, Chan Buddhism, Pure Land, and American Buddhism.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will have an understanding of the study of religion as an interdisciplinary academic field.
2. Students will develop understanding of Buddhist practices through critical analysis of the sacred texts.
3. Students will further their understanding of the religions by focusing further writing on ethnographic study and historical analysis.
4. Writing produced throughout the course will be developed through an instructor and university writing resource services feedback process involving discussion of invention, assistance with organization, opportunity for draft revisions and editing, and finally presentation of writings via class group and/or instructor discussion.

Writing In the Disciplines

This is writing-intensive content course which fulfills a CORE requirement for a Writing in the Disciplines course (WID) and it can be counted towards minor requirements. As such, its educational objectives include:

- Read published articles informed by religious studies in order to gain knowledge of discipline specific debates and ways of writing.
- Demonstrate through your writing familiarity with key concepts and arguments developed by scholars of religion and use them to develop your own analyses and arguments through complex reasoning and critical thinking.
- Develop writing skills specific to religious studies by working through all stages of the writing process including: invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
- Prepare a research paper with documentation in accordance with disciplinary standards.
- Clearly communicate your ideas in writing with organization and technical proficiency.

For this Writing in the Disciplines course, the writing assignments will teach students to use the shared writing conventions, practices and methods of citation of (this discipline).

Course Format and Prerequisites

This is primarily a lecture course, but students are encouraged (and expected) to engage in class discussions and critical analysis of the course materials, especially during the Friday discussion sessions. There are no formal prerequisites and no knowledge of Asian languages is required.

Requirements

- Class attendance, participation, and reading of assigned materials (in advance to lectures).
- Three written essays, each 5 pages long (35% of the final grade).
- Five quizzes (20% of the final grade).
Two exams (each 25% of the final grade).
- Final Paper (20% of the final grade)

Required Texts

Lopez, Donald, ed. Buddhist Scriptures.

Harvey, Peter. An Introduction to Buddhism: Teachings, History, and Practices.

Recommended Text

Rahula, Walpola. What the Buddha Taught.

Grading

- The final grade will be primarily based on the course requirements, but note that poor attendance or inappropriate behavior can lead to a failing grade (see below).
- Grades will be computed on this scale: A = 100–92%; B+ = 91.5–88%; B = 87.5–82%; C+ = 81.5–78%; C = 77.5–72%; D+ = 71.5–68%; D = 67.5–60.5%; E = 60% or less.
- At the instructor's discretion, the final grades may be adjusted according to a curve (with maximum 2 point deviation from the above scale).

Attendance

- Attendance is mandatory for all students. Students who have problems with class attendance and/or punctuality should think twice before enrolling in this course.
- Valid excuses for missed classes must be submitted in writing and in a timely manner, along with pertinent documentation (such as note from a doctor). Written excuses for planned absences (such as participation in athletic meetings or religious observances, for example) must be submitted in advance.
- In case of excessive absences from class, students will be prohibited from further attendance and given failing grades. After the first three (3) missed hours (regardless of whether they are excusable or not), each subsequent unexcused hour will lead to a 3% reduction of the final grade. Students who miss more than a total of seven (7) hours of class instruction will automatically receive a failing grade. Coming late, leaving early, being inattentive, and other forms of disruptive behavior can be counted as unexcused absences.

Exams

- No make-up exams will be given, except in documented instances of illness or other emergency, in which case the student must directly contact the instructor before the exam, if feasible, or as soon as possible.
- If any student has a valid reason to request rescheduling of an exam—such as observance of a religious holiday—he/she must contact the instructor in person and make suitable arrangements one week before the examination. Failure to act in accord with these instructions will lead to a failing grade.
- The quizzes will not have a regular schedule and will be given without an advance warning. They will include the readings for that week, so students should come to class prepared to be examined on them.
- Remember, the readings are not optional.
- Students who are late will not be able to take the quiz and will have to wait outside until it has ended. Be considerate of your fellow students and the professor.
- The quiz with the worst grade will not be counted for the final grade.
- Students should take all exams seriously and bear in mind that they should not count on having an opportunity to do additional work for an extra credit or a better grade.

Guidelines for the Written Assignment

Writing Assignments

Religious studies is a deeply interdisciplinary field. Writing projects will require use of theories and methods drawn from many other departments, programs, and curricula of study. Various modes of investigation are possible—literary, historical, cultural, sociological, anthropological, etc. One significant aspect of these approaches is their tendency to contextualize religious phenomena (beliefs, rituals, etc). Every religion arises within a particular environment, which inevitably affects the development of the religion. When you explore a religion's context, seemingly mystifying aspects of the tradition often become more comprehensible (source: http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/religious_studies.html).

Tips for Writing Short Papers for this Course

- Consider your sources.
When reading for Religion - especially when reading sources found on the Web - note whether you are using materials from experts in the practice of religion (gurus, theologians, priests, nuns), or respected scholars, employed by reputable universities. While both sources might be useful to your research, it's important to understand the source, its purpose, and its intended audience.
- Consider the current conversation.
Consulting recent editions of new work by living scholars is a good way to determine which arguments are current and salient.
- Read footnotes and endnotes.
Often footnotes and endnotes will lead you to other sources. Moreover, good scholarly editions of religious texts have substantive footnotes that will help you to better understand the passages you are working with.
- Consider your audience.
If you are writing for readers who are not experts in the field, be sure to acquaint them with all relevant background material. Always write clearly and concisely, so that your paper is a pleasure to read.
- Don't let quotations speak for themselves.
In religion, passages taken out of context can be misread. Also, because so many disputes exist over meaning, you need to make sure that you explain to your reader what a passage means in terms of your argument, and why it is relevant. As in all papers, you need to provide background for passages *before* quoting them, and you need to analyze the passage *after*.
- Remember: religious texts require special citation methods.
When citing the *Bible*, for instance, you need to cite Book, Chapter, and Verse. Familiarize yourself with the appropriate citation methods.
Source: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/humanities/religion.shtml>

Final Paper:

There is one 3000-word writing assignment. You may pick a topic related to the course that interests you. However, you must email me your proposed topic before you start working on your paper. This assignment will be graded very strictly. To receive an A papers should be:

- at least 3000 words (normal 12 pt. font)
- properly referenced and include a bibliography
- carefully and clearly written
 - include transition sentences
 - include a clear and stated thesis or argument
 - include a discussion of that thesis or argument
 - include footnoted evidence from readings and other sources that support the paper's thesis and argument
 - include an introduction and conclusion
 - use proper grammar and spelling (spell- and grammar- check on computers makes this much easier now).

- This paper also must demonstrate through incorporation of one or more writing style (Comparative essays, Critical readings of religious texts, Ethnographic studies, Historical analyses) that you understand how your topic fits within the historical development and branches of Buddhism: its relationship to the Buddhist context. If this part of the paper is missing, the highest grade you will be able to earn is a 'C'.

- *Rubric*

Identified and related significant ideas (20 points)	_____
Good discussion of ideas (20 points)	_____
Insightful and reflective (20 points)	_____
Well-written with few to no errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar (20 points)	_____
Followed syllabus instructions (20 points)	_____
Total Points:	_____

- A hard copy of the written assignment must be submitted in class on the due date, at the latest. You can also leave a copy of your paper in the instructor's mailbox at the Religious Studies office any time prior to the deadline. No late submissions will be accepted under any circumstances, and no other form of submission, such as emailing the paper, is acceptable.
- Students are welcome to bring early drafts of their paper and ask for feedback/advice during the office hours.

Other Notices

- A student who has a disability that may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should consult the instructor so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Note that the student is responsible for communicating his/her needs to the instructor, and that all arrangements for changes pertaining to the exams must be made one week in advance.
- Plagiarism and cheating will result in a failing grade and other serious penalties. For more information, see the "Academic Honesty—Student Guide" brochure (posted online by the Dean of Students Office).

Lecture Topics and Course Schedule

(Tentative and subject to change)

Week 1:

Introduction to the Course

Week 2:

1. Indian Contexts and the Buddha's Life

Harvey 1–31; Lopez 105–28

Week 3:

2. The Early Buddhist Community

Harvey 73–89, 322–24; Lopez 223–29

Week 4:

3. Doctrines of Karma and Rebirth

Harvey 32–46; Lopez 3–18, 24–33; video: Footprint of the Buddha

First Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 5:

4. The Four Noble Truths

Harvey 47–72

Buddhism and Violence, special lecture by Prof. M. Zimmermann (U Hamburg)

First Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 6:

5. The Mahāyāna Tradition and the Bodhisattva Ideal

Harvey 89–124; Lopez 172–84, 388–93

First Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 7:

Exam 1 (Thu), preceded by exam review (Tue)

Week 8:

6. Interpretations of Buddhahood and Emergence of Tantra

Harvey 125–38, 260–70; Lopez 478–87, 495–503

Second Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 9:

7. Popular Beliefs and Devotional Practices

Harvey 170–95; Lopez 60–68, 394–401

Second Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 10:

8. Buddhist Meditation

Harvey 244–60, 270–79; Lopez 343–49, 361–69

Second Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 11:

9. Monastic and Lay Paradigms

Harvey 196–243; Lopez 269–84

Third Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 12:

10. Buddhism in Chinese History

Harvey 148–158; handout; Lopez 19–23, 370–74; video: Buddhism in China

Third Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 13:

11. Buddhism in Modern Asia

Harvey 280–99; Lopez 306–17, 531–39

Third Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 14:

Video: Land of the Disappearing Buddha (Tue); Thanksgiving is on 11/22

Week 15:

12. Western Encounters with Buddhism

Harvey 300–321; Lopez 540–48; video: Buddhism Comes to America

Week 16:

Exam 2

UC 11843 12F

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Council <input type="checkbox"/> New Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Course Change Core Category: <u>WID</u> Effective Fall <u>2014</u>	or	Graduate/Professional Studies Council <input type="checkbox"/> New Course <input type="checkbox"/> Course Change Effective Fall <u>2014</u>
--	----	---

1. Department: RELS College: CLASS
 2. Faculty Contact Person: Lois Zamora Telephone: 3-3781 Email: lzamora@ub.edu

3. Course Information on New/Revised course:
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
RELS / 2360 / Introduction to Buddhism
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)
RELS / 2360 / INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
 • SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 38.0202.00 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0

RECEIVED OCT 12 2012

4. Justification for adding/changing course: To meet core curriculum requirements
 5. Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course? Yes No
 If Yes, please complete:

• Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
 _____ / _____ / _____
 • Course ID: _____ Effective Date (current): _____

6. Authorized Degree Program
 • Does this course affect n _____ Yes No
 • Does this course affect m _____ Yes No
 • Can the course be repeated _____ (course description)

Social Resp + Personal Resp assessments

7. Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C) (match item 3, above.) _____
 8. If this form involves a change to the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
RELS / 2360 / INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
 • Course ID: _____ Effective Date: _____
 9. Proposed Catalog Description: (If Cr: 3, (3-0). Prerequisites: ENG _____): Introduction to Buddhist thought, practice, culture and examines a variety of Buddhist traditions.

needed emailed 02.04.2013

10. Dean's Signature: _____ Date: 10/12
 Print/Type Name: Sarah Fishman

RELS 2360 Introduction to Buddhism

Instructor:

Contact Information:

Class Room/Days/Times

Course Description

The course is a introduction to Buddhist thought, practice, culture(s), and history. It traces the historical development of Buddhism and examines a variety of Buddhist traditions such as Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana, Chan Buddhism, Pure Land, and American Buddhism.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will have an understanding of the study of religion as an interdisciplinary academic field.
2. Students will develop understanding of Buddhist practices through critical analysis of the sacred texts.
3. Students will further their understanding of the religions by focusing further writing on ethnographic study and historical analysis.
4. Writing produced throughout the course will be developed through an instructor and university writing resource services feedback process involving discussion of invention, assistance with organization, opportunity for draft revisions and editing, and finally presentation of writings via class group and/or instructor discussion.

Writing In the Disciplines

This is writing-intensive content course which fulfills a CORE requirement for a Writing in the Disciplines course (WID) and it can be counted towards minor requirements. As such, its educational objectives include:

- Read published articles informed by religious studies in order to gain knowledge of discipline specific debates and ways of writing.
- Demonstrate through your writing familiarity with key concepts and arguments developed by scholars of religion and use them to develop your own analyses and arguments through complex reasoning and critical thinking.
- Develop writing skills specific to religious studies by working through all stages of the writing process including: invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
- Prepare a research paper with documentation in accordance with disciplinary standards.
- Clearly communicate your ideas in writing with organization and technical proficiency.

Course Format and Prerequisites

This is primarily a lecture course, but students are encouraged (and expected) to engage in class discussions and critical analysis of the course materials, especially during the Friday discussion sessions. There are no formal prerequisites and no knowledge of Asian languages is required.

Requirements

- Class attendance, participation, and reading of assigned materials (in advance to lectures).
- Three written essays, each 5 pages long (35% of the final grade).
- Five quizzes (20% of the final grade).
Two exams (each 25% of the final grade).
- Final Paper (20% of the final grade)

Required Texts

Lopez, Donald, ed. Buddhist Scriptures.

Harvey, Peter. An Introduction to Buddhism: Teachings, History, and Practices.

Recommended Text

Rahula, Walpola. What the Buddha Taught.

Grading

- The final grade will be primarily based on the course requirements, but note that poor attendance or inappropriate behavior can lead to a failing grade (see below).
- Grades will be computed on this scale: A = 100–92%; B+ = 91.5–88%; B = 87.5–82%; C+ = 81.5–78%; C = 77.5–72%; D+ = 71.5–68%; D = 67.5–60.5%; E = 60% or less.
- At the instructor’s discretion, the final grades may be adjusted according to a curve (with maximum 2 point deviation from the above scale).

Attendance

- Attendance is mandatory for all students. Students who have problems with class attendance and/or punctuality should think twice before enrolling in this course.
- Valid excuses for missed classes must be submitted in writing and in a timely manner, along with pertinent documentation (such as note from a doctor). Written excuses for planned absences (such as participation in athletic meetings or religious observances, for example) must be submitted in advance.
- In case of excessive absences from class, students will be prohibited from further attendance, and given failing grades. After the first three (3) missed hours (regardless of whether they are excusable or not), each subsequent unexcused hour will lead to a 3% reduction of the final grade. Students who miss more than a total of seven (7) hours of class instruction will automatically receive a failing grade. Coming late, leaving early, being inattentive, and other forms of disruptive behavior can be counted as unexcused absences.

Exams

- No make-up exams will be given, except in documented instances of illness or other emergency, in which case the student must directly contact the instructor before the exam, if feasible, or as soon as possible.
- If any student has a valid reason to request rescheduling of an exam—such as observance of a religious holiday—he/she must contact the instructor in person and make suitable arrangements one week before the examination. Failure to act in accord with these instructions will lead to a failing grade.
- The quizzes will not have a regular schedule and will be given without an advance warning. They will include the readings for that week, so students should come to class prepared to be examined on them.
- Remember, the readings are not optional.
- Students who are late will not be able to take the quiz and will have to wait outside until it has ended. Be considerate of your fellow students and the professor.
- The quiz with the worst grade will not be counted for the final grade.
- Students should take all exams seriously and bear in mind that they should not count on having an opportunity to do additional work for an extra credit or a better grade.

Guidelines for the Written Assignment

Writing Assignments

Religious studies is a deeply interdisciplinary field. Writing projects will require use of theories and methods drawn from many other departments, programs, and curricula of study. Various modes of investigation are possible—literary, historical, cultural, sociological, anthropological, etc. One significant aspect of these approaches is their tendency to contextualize religious phenomena (beliefs, rituals, etc). Every religion arises within a particular environment, which inevitably affects the development of the religion. When you explore a religion's context, seemingly mystifying aspects of the tradition often become more comprehensible (source: http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/religious_studies.html).

Tips for Writing Short Papers for this Course

- Consider your sources.
When reading for Religion - especially when reading sources found on the Web - note whether you are using materials from experts in the practice of religion (gurus, theologians, priests, nuns), or respected scholars, employed by reputable universities. While both sources might be useful to your research, it's important to understand the source, its purpose, and its intended audience.
- Consider the current conversation.
Consulting recent editions of new work by living scholars is a good way to determine which arguments are current and salient.
- Read footnotes and endnotes.
Often footnotes and endnotes will lead you to other sources. Moreover, good scholarly editions of religious texts have substantive footnotes that will help you to better understand the passages you are working with.
- Consider your audience.
If you are writing for readers who are not experts in the field, be sure to acquaint them with all relevant background material. Always write clearly and concisely, so that your paper is a pleasure to read.
- Don't let quotations speak for themselves.
In religion, passages taken out of context can be misread. Also, because so many disputes exist over meaning, you need to make sure that you explain to your reader what a passage means in terms of your argument, and why it is relevant. As in all papers, you need to provide background for passages *before* quoting them, and you need to analyze the passage *after*.
- Remember: religious texts require special citation methods.
When citing the *Bible*, for instance, you need to cite Book, Chapter, and Verse. Familiarize yourself with the appropriate citation methods.

Source: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/humanities/religion.shtml>

Final Paper:

There is one 3000-word writing assignment. You may pick a topic related to the course that interests you. However, you must email me your proposed topic before you start working on your paper. This assignment will be graded very strictly. To receive an A papers should be:

- at least 3000 words (normal 12 pt. font)
- properly referenced and include a bibliography
- carefully and clearly written
 - include transition sentences
 - include a clear and stated thesis or argument
 - include a discussion of that thesis or argument
 - include footnoted evidence from readings and other sources that support the paper's thesis and argument
 - include an introduction and conclusion
 - use proper grammar and spelling (spell- and grammar- check on computers makes this much easier now).

- This paper also must demonstrate through incorporation of one or more writing style (Comparative essays, Critical readings of religious texts, Ethnographic studies, Historical analyses) that you understand how your topic fits within the historical development and branches of Buddhism: its relationship to the Buddhist context. If this part of the paper is missing, the highest grade you will be able to earn is a 'C'.

- *Rubric*

Identified and related significant ideas (20 points)	_____
Good discussion of ideas (20 points)	_____
Insightful and reflective (20 points)	_____
Well-written with few to no errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar (20 points)	_____
Followed syllabus instructions (20 points)	_____
Total Points:	_____

- A hard copy of the written assignment must be submitted in class on the due date, at the latest. You can also leave a copy of your paper in the instructor's mailbox at the Religious Studies office any time prior to the deadline. No late submissions will be accepted under any circumstances, and no other form of submission, such as emailing the paper, is acceptable.
- Students are welcome to bring early drafts of their paper and ask for feedback/advice during the office hours.

Other Notices

- A student who has a disability that may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should consult the instructor so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Note that the student is responsible for communicating his/her needs to the instructor, and that all arrangements for changes pertaining to the exams must be made one week in advance.
- Plagiarism and cheating will result in a failing grade and other serious penalties. For more information, see the "Academic Honesty—Student Guide" brochure (posted online by the Dean of Students Office).

Lecture Topics and Course Schedule

(Tentative and subject to change)

Week 1:

Introduction to the Course

Week 2:

1. Indian Contexts and the Buddha's Life

Harvey 1–31; Lopez 105–28

Week 3:

2. The Early Buddhist Community

Harvey 73–89, 322–24; Lopez 223–29

Week 4:

3. Doctrines of Karma and Rebirth

Harvey 32–46; Lopez 3–18, 24–33; video: Footprint of the Buddha

First Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 5:

4. The Four Noble Truths

Harvey 47–72

Buddhism and Violence, special lecture by Prof. M. Zimmermann (U Hamburg)

First Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 6:

5. The Mahāyāna Tradition and the Bodhisattva Ideal

Harvey 89–124; Lopez 172–84, 388–93

First Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 7:

Exam 1 (Thu), preceded by exam review (Tue)

Week 8:

6. Interpretations of Buddhahood and Emergence of Tantra

Harvey 125–38, 260–70; Lopez 478–87, 495–503

Second Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 9:

7. Popular Beliefs and Devotional Practices

Harvey 170–95; Lopez 60–68, 394–401

Second Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 10:

8. Buddhist Meditation

Harvey 244–60, 270–79; Lopez 343–49, 361–69

Second Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 11:

9. Monastic and Lay Paradigms

Harvey 196–243; Lopez 269–84

Third Paper Assignment, Stage A:

Begin Brainstorming (conceptualizing) your topic; outline your argument;

Week 12:

10. Buddhism in Chinese History

Harvey 148–158; handout; Lopez 19–23, 370–74; video: Buddhism in China

Third Paper Assignment, Stage B:

Bring your draft and meet with your working group; present your argument to the group; provide written comments to two of your group members on their drafts;

Week 13:

11. Buddhism in Modern Asia

Harvey 280–99; Lopez 306–17, 531–39

Third Paper Assignment, Stage C:

Show your group your revised essay; submit it to the Turnitin.com class website.

Week 14:

Video: Land of the Disappearing Buddha (Tue); Thanksgiving is on 11/22

Week 15:

12. Western Encounters with Buddhism

Harvey 300–321; Lopez 540–48; video: Buddhism Comes to America

Week 16:

Exam 2