

Japanese Culture & Civilization: Buddhism in Theory and Practice

The University of Shiga Prefecture

October 1 - December 3, 2014 (JCMU students)

October 1 - January 30, 2015 (USP students)

Course Description and Goals

This course, offered to undergraduates at The Japan Center for Michigan Universities (JCMU) and to undergraduates or graduate students at The University of Shiga Prefecture (USP), presents an introduction to, and an investigation of, specific topics in Japanese culture and society as formed by religious beliefs and practices, especially Buddhism. Classroom lectures and discussions will focus mainly on Buddhist concepts and ideals, both fundamental and those particular to Japan. Understanding particular religious practices will be heightened by a field study trip to Nishi-Hongwanji, a World Heritage Site in Kyoto and the central site of Jodo-Shinshu (Shin Buddhism), and also by a field study practicum meditation session at a Zen temple in Hikone. Ideals of Buddhist architecture, in particular the harmony of art and nature, will be revealed in a field study tour of two National Treasure Buddhist temples in the mountain heights of Shiga. A study tour to local manufacturers of Buddhist household altars will further deepen students' appreciation of the functions and significance of Buddhist beliefs in daily life.

Food for thought will further be provoked by considerations of the evolving or changing nature of what Buddhist themes of enlightenment and the meaning of life and death mean to different generations, from the Meiji Era through the Showa War to today's young people, as revealed in selected scenes from films and anime. Another lecture considers the influence of Buddhism on works of Japanese poetry and literature.

The primary goal and learning objective of this course is to stimulate students to consider how and where Japanese culture and society have been affected by religion, especially Buddhism. This will be accomplished through classroom lectures and discussions, practical observations and investigations at several religious sites and one site manufacturing religious ritual objects, and participation in one major religious practice (silent sitting meditation). Upon completion of the course, students will have developed a deeper appreciation and knowledge of the fundamentals and the nature of certain aspects of Japanese Buddhism. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to observe and evaluate similarities and differences in people's thought and belief conceptions and material lifestyles and environments.

Through attending classes regularly, participating in discussions actively, and engaging with the content of this course fully, both intellectually and through physical experiences, by the end of the course students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the following key items:

- What are the primary concepts, beliefs and ideals of Buddhism, and what did particular Japanese Buddhist leaders contribute to the religion
- Where can expressions of Buddhist thought be observed in Japanese lifestyles
- Other aspects of Japanese culture and society as they reveal themselves and become relevant to the students' personal and academic lives

Course Schedule

*Classroom contact hours for JCMU students: 9 Lecture sessions @ 2h.30min. = Classroom Total 22.5 hours.
 *Field Study contact hours: 4 sessions. 1 session @ 4 hours including 2+ hours lectures and discussion; 1 session @ 5 hours including 3+ hours lectures and discussion; 1 session @ 5 hours including 4+ hours lectures and discussion; 1 session @ 7 hours including 3+ hours lectures and discussion; = Field Study Total 21 hours including 12+ hours lectures and discussion. *Total = 43.5 hours for 3 credits.
 *USP students attend classes only for the 3rd Period (i.e., from 1:10 to 2:40); the field trips are optional (as the times conflict with their other classes); assignments and evaluation are different from the JCMU section; completion of the course 15 classroom lectures @ 90min. = 22.5 hours receives 1 credit.

① Oct. 1 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)	② Oct 8 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)	③ Oct. 11 Sat. 1:30-5:30 Nishi-Hongwanji Temple, Kyoto (Ishida)	④ Oct. 15 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Rippey)	⑤ Oct. 22 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)
⑥ Oct. 24 Fri. 1:00-6:00 Seiryoji Temple, Hikone (Ishida)	⑦ Oct. 29 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)	⑧ Nov. 5 Wed. 1:10 -3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)	⑨ Nov. 19 Wed. 1:10-3: 40 A7-102 (Omoya)	⑩ Nov. 22 Sat. 1:00-6:00 Butsudan Work- shops, Hikone (Omoya)
⑪ Nov 26 Wed. 1:10 -3:40 A7-102 (Klinger)	⑫ Dec 3 Wed. 12:00-7:00 Saimyoji & Kongorinji Temples, Shiga (Tomishima & Ishida)	⑬ Dec 10 Wed. 1:10-3:40 A7-102 (Ishida)	*subsequent classes only for USP students	

Class 1: October 1 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topics: Introduction to Mahāyāna Buddhism and Japanese Kamakura Buddhism (Part I). Fundamental Teachings of the Buddha: the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Noble Path. Early (Theravada) Buddhism vs. Mahāyāna Buddhism. Readings: **Rahula** *What the Buddha Taught*. **Ishida** *The Seventh Step in This World of Dukkha*.

Class 2: October 8 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topics: Introduction to Mahāyāna Buddhism and Japanese Kamakura Buddhism (Part II). Shinran, the founder of Jodo-Shinshu or Shin Buddhism and Amida Buddha as the fulfilled body of *buddha*.
 Readings: **Ishida** *Shinjin and Satori in the Here and Now*. **Ishida** *Ontological Implications of Pure land in the Contemporary World*. **Ishida** *Otto's Theory of Religious Experience*.

Class 3: October 11 Saturday 1:30 - 5:30 Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor.

Topic: Field study. Tour & Appreciation of Nishi-Hongwanji (西本願寺 <http://www.hongwanji.or.jp/>), a World Cultural Heritage Buddhist temple in Kyoto. Amida Hall, Founder's Hall, Hiun Pavilion, Noh stage, paintings, and other national treasures. Readings: **Amstutz** *Missing Hongan-ji*. **Dobbins** *Kakunyo and the Creation of the Honganji Temple*.

Class 4: October 15 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: John Rippey, Professor

Topic: The satoyama and traditional Japanese conceptions of nature, as seen in Edo period haiku and writings by Matsuo Basho and Kobayashi Issa, with some consideration of Buddhist influences on their lives and literary work. Readings: a selection of poetry and prose by Basho and Issa. Readings: Will be available at least a week before the class.

Class 5: October 22 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topics: Introduction to Mahâyâna Buddhism and Japanese Kamakura Buddhism (Part III). Dogen, the founder of Soto Zen Buddhism and sitting-meditation.

Readings: **Ishida** *Genjokoan*. **Ishida** *Zazen-shin*. **Ishida** *The Problem of Practice in Shen-Hui's Teaching of Sudden Enlightenment*. **Ishida** *The Lineage of Zen*.

Class 6: October 24 Friday 1:00 - 6:00. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topic: Field study. Instruction in *zazen* sitting meditation at Seiryōji 清涼寺 a Soto Zen temple in Hikone, followed by a practice session of *zazen*. Also a visit to the attached Ryotanji 龍潭寺 Temple, the Family Temple of the Ii family, the former Lords of Hikone.

<http://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=35.282771,136.266459&spn=0.002886,0.005869&z=18>

Class 7: October 29 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topics: Introduction to Mahâyâna Buddhism and Japanese Kamakura Buddhism (Part IV). The Bodhisattva ideal in Mahâyâna Buddhism—Self-benefiting and benefiting-others.

Readings: **Ishida** *Salvation for Oneself and Others*. **Ishida** *Nietzsche and Samsara*.

Class 8: November 5 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topic: Time-Space Interformation in Eastern Philosophy, with emphasis on Buddhism and particularity and universality of world religions. (Part I)

Readings: **Ishida** *A Bodhisattva Ideal in the Here and Now*. **Ishida** *Particular and Universal Norms of Religious Values in Tannisho*. **Ishida** *The Unity of Polarity in Shinran's Religious Experience*.

Class 9: November 19 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Shinsuke Omoya, Professor

Topics: Post-war Japanese design. History and craftsmanship of Buddhist household altars in Hikone.

Readings: **Eades** *Houses of Everlasting Bliss*. **Eades** *Making a Hikone Butsudan*. **Nelson** *Household Altars*.

Class 10: November 22 Saturday 1:00 - 6:00. Instructor: Shinsuke Omoya, Professor

Topic: Field study. Tour & Appreciation of craftsmen's workshops making Buddhist altars in the vicinity of Hikone, including 4 hours lectures, explanations and discussion.

Class 11: November 26 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Walter Klinger, Associate Professor

Topic: Overview of films and anime with Buddhist themes. Buddhism & Christianity in *Ran*. Buddhism, Shinto & Christianity Intersect in *Haunted Junction*. The Doctrine of Emptiness in *Hoichi the Earless*. Satori and Zazen in *Sugata Sanshiro*. Readings: **Inoue** *The Invention of the Martial Arts*. **Klinger** *Kurosawa's*

Censored Satori. Levi Other Gods, Other Demons. Richie Buddhism and the Film. Roundtable Anime and Animism.

Class 12: December 3 Wednesday 12:00 - 7:00. Instructors: Yoshiyuki Tomishima and Hoyu Ishida, Professors

Topic: Field study. Tour & Appreciation of Saimyôji 西明寺 <http://www.saimyouji.com/> and Kongôrinji 金剛輪寺 <http://www.kongourinji.org/> two national treasure Buddhist temples in the mountains of Shiga Prefecture, including 3 hours lectures, explanations and discussion on temple architecture and statues.

Reading: **Tomishima** *National Treasures of Japan: Shiga.*

<http://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=35.183332,136.285245&spn=0.001445,0.002934&z=19>

Class 13: December 10 Wednesday 1:10-3:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topics: Time-Space Interformation in Eastern Philosophy, with emphasis on Buddhism and particularity and universality of world religions. (Part II) Course Wrap up

*Final class for JCMU students. ***Final Paper and Reflection Paper due today** by email in order to meet the JCMU deadline for submitting grades.

(*5 subsequent classes for USP students. Classroom A7-102)

December 17 Wednesday 1:10-2:40. Instructor: Walter Klinger, Associate Professor

Topic: Japanese religion in film: *Sugata Sanshiro 姿三四郎 (powerpoint presentation).*

December 24 Wednesday 1:10-2:40. Instructor: Walter Klinger, Associate Professor

Topic: Japanese religion in film: *Sugata Sanshiro 姿三四郎 (film viewing).*

January 14 Wednesday 1:10-2:40. Instructor: Walter Klinger, Associate Professor

Topic: Japanese religion in film: *Hoichi the Earless 耳なし芳一.*

January 21 Wednesday 1:10-2:40. Instructor: Shinsuke Omoya, Professor

Topic: Modernization in everyday life—the development of household objects and tools in Japan.

Readings: **Ekuan** *Aesthetics of the Japanese Lunchbox.* **Omoya** *Electric Pots and Thermos Bottles.*

Omoya *Modernization of Pots and Pans.*

January 28 Wednesday 1:10-2:40. Instructor: Hoyu Ishida, Professor

Topic: Course Wrap up.

Course Readings

**this syllabus and some of the course readings are available for download from
<http://www.office.usp.ac.jp/~klinger.w/class/jcmu/CourseReadings.html>
books are listed with their USP library call number.

- Amstutz, Galen.** 1996. Missing Hongan-ji in Japanese Studies. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 23/1–2, pp. 155-178.
- Dobbins, James C.** 1989. *Jodo Shinshu: Shin Buddhism in Medieval Japan*. Religion in Asia and Africa Series, Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. *excerpt: Ch. 6 Kakunyo and the Creation of the Honganji Temple 79-98.
- Eades, Carla; Eades, Jerry; Nishiyama Yuriko; and Yanase Hiroko.** 2000. Houses of Everlasting Bliss: Globalization and the Production of Buddhist Altars in Hikone. In J.S Eades, Tom Gill and Harumi Befu (eds.), *Globalization and Social Change in Contemporary Japan*, pp. 159-179. Melbourne: Trans Pacific Press. 361.5/GL
- Eades, Carla; Nishiyama Yuriko; and Yanase Hiroko.** 2008. Introduction to Japanese Craftsmanship: Making A Hikone Butsudan. 9 pdf files.
- Inoue Shun.** 1998. The Invention of the Martial Arts: Kano Shogoro and Kodokan Judo. In Stephen Vlastos (ed.), *Mirror of modernity: invented traditions of modern Japan*, pp. 163-173. Berkeley: University of California Press. 302.1/MI
- Ishida Hoyu.** 2010. “Genjōkōan”: Some Literary and Interpretative problems of Its Translation. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (15), 1-18.
- _____. 2009. “Zazen-shin,” Admonition Concerning Sitting-Meditation. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (14), 1-20.
- _____. 2007. The Seventh Step in This World of Duhkha: To Be in the World but Not of the World. *Asian Humanities* (Fall Issue), 151-162.
- _____. 2005. The Unity of Polarity in Shinran’s Religious Experience—That Which Is Empty and False & That Which Is Unsurpassed—. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (10), 41-52.
- _____. 2004. Particular and Universal Norms of Religious Values in Tannishō. *The Pure Land, The Journal of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies, New Series* No.21, December.
- _____. 2003. Ontological Implications of Pure Land in the Contemporary World. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (8), 15-28.
- _____. 2002. A Bodhisattva Ideal in the Here and Now. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (7), 33-54.
- _____. 2001. Shinjin and Satori in the Here and Now—Flower Yet Fall As People Lament. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (6), 43-68.
- _____. 1999. The Lineage of Zen: The Historian and the Believer. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture* (4), 65-78.
- _____. 1998. Otto’s Theory of Religious Experience as Encounter with the Numinous and Its Application to Buddhism. *Japanese Religions, Vol. 15*(3), 19-33.

- _____. 1998. Nietzsche and Samsara: Suffering and Joy in the Eternal Recurrence. *The Pure Land, Journal of Pure Land Buddhism, New Series No. 15*, pp. 122-145.
- _____. 1997. Salvation For Oneself And Others: "The Wish To Save All Beings" in The Present. *The Pure Land, The Journal Of The International Association Of Shin Buddhist Studies, (New Series), No. 13-14, December*, pp. 225-240.
- _____. 1996. The Problem of Practice in Shen-Hui's Teaching of Sudden Enlightenment. *Academic Reports of the University Center for Intercultural Education, the University of Shiga Prefecture (1)*, 51-64.
- _____. 1990. Pure/Religious Experiences in the Chuang-tzu and Buddhism: In Search of the Pure Land. *The Pure Land, Journal of Pure Land Buddhism (New Series)*, Kyoto, No. 7, December, pp. 26-41.
- _____. 1989. Dōgen's Change of Attitude toward the Laity's Attainment of Enlightenment. *Asian Culture, Asian-Pacific Cultural Center, Taipei, Vol. XVII, No. 3, Autumn*, pp. 71-86.
- Klinger, Walter.** 2006. Kurosawa's Censored Satori. *Asian Cinema*, (17) No.2, Fall/Winter, pp. 124-145. *pdf version for this class is titled *Sugata Sanshiro's Satori* and contains notes in Japanese that are not in the journal version.
- Levi, Antonia.** 1996. *Samurai from outer space: understanding Japanese animation*. Chicago: Open Court Press. "Other Gods, Other Demons," pp. 35-65. 778.77/LE//
- Nelson, John.** 2008. Household Altars in Contemporary Japan: Rectifying Buddhist "Ancestor Worship" with Home Décor and Consumer Choice. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 35/2, pp. 305-330.
- Rahula, Walpola.** [1959]1974. *What the Buddha Taught*. New York: Grove Press. *excerpt: Chapters 2-5.
- Richie, Donald.** 2001. Buddhism and the Film. In Donald Richie and Arturo Silva (eds.), *The Donald Richie reader: 50 years of writing on Japan*, pp. 88-90. Berkeley: Stone Bridge Press. 302.1/RI
- Roundtable Discussion.** 1999. Anime and Animism. *Kyoto Journal* 41, pp. 28-42.
- Suzuki, D.T.** 1956. *Zen and Japanese Culture*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. *excerpt: pp. 21-28. (supplementary readings: Introduction by Richard M. Jaffe 2010, Chapter 1 What is Zen?)
- Tomishima Yoshiyuki.** 1998. 『日本の国宝 80号 滋賀／西明寺金剛輪寺』週刊朝日百科 (*Weekly Asahi Encyclopedia of the National Treasures of Japan Vol 80 Shiga: (Saimyouji, Kongorinji, etc.)*). *English vocabulary glosses by Prof. Ishida.

***Reference Texts & Supplementary Readings:**

- Ackermann, Peter.** 1997. The Four Seasons: One of Japanese Culture's Most Central Concepts. In Pamela J. Asquith and Arne Kalland (eds), *Japanese images of nature: cultural perspectives*, pp. 36-53. Richmond: Curzon. 361.5/AS
- Austin, James H.** 2006. *Zen-Brain Reflections: Reviewing Recent Developments in Meditation and States of Consciousness*. Cambridge: MIT Press. *especially: Part IX Pointing at Moonlight: Allusions and Illusions, 405-461.
- Barrett, Gregory.** 1989. *Archetypes in Japanese Film: The Sociopolitical and Religious Significance of the Principal Heroes and Heroines*. Selinsgrove PA: Susquehanna University Press. *especially: pp. 13-21, 211-221. 778.21/BA//
- Bellah, Robert N.** 2003. *Imagining Japan: the Japanese tradition and its modern interpretation*. Berkeley: University of California Press. *excerpts: "Introduction: The Japanese Difference," pp. 1-62, and "The Contemporary Meaning of Kamakura Buddhism," pp. 63-77. 302.1/BE
- Buswell, Robert.** (Ed.). 2003. *Encyclopedia of Buddhism*. New York: MacMillan Reference Books. *especially articles on "Japan," "Kamakura Buddhism," "Pure Land Schools," "Shinto and Buddhism."
- Carr, Kevin Gray.** 1993. Making Way: War, Philosophy and Sport in Japanese Judo. *Journal of Sport History* (20), No. 2 (Summer), 167-188.

- Covell, Stephen G.** 2006. *Japanese Temple Buddhism: Worldliness in a Religion of Renunciation*. University of Hawaii Press. *excerpt: Table 1 and 2 Lists of sects and followers.
- Davis, Darrell William.** 1995. Ran. In *Picturing Japaneseness: monumental style, national identity, Japanese film*, pp. 237-249. Columbia University Press. 778.21/DA//
- Ekuan Kenji and Stewart, David B.** (Eds). 2000. *The Aesthetics of the Japanese Lunchbox*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Heine, Steven.** 2006. *Did Dogen Go to China? What He Wrote and When He Wrote It*. Oxford University Press. *excerpt: Preface.
- Heine, Steven, and Wright, Dale S.** (Eds). 2006. *Zen Classics: Formative Texts in the History of Zen Buddhism*. New York: Oxford University Press. *excerpts: Chapter 5. T. Griffith Foulk, “ ‘Rules of Purity’ in Japanese Zen,” 137-169. Chapter 6. G. Victor Sogen Hori, *Zen Koan Capping Phrase Books: Literary Study and the Insight “Not Founded on Words or Letters,”* 171-214.
- Heine, Steven, and Wright, Dale S.** (Eds). 2004. *The Zen Canon: Understanding the Classic Texts*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. *excerpt: Chapter 8. Steven Heine, “The Eihei koroku: The Record of Dogen's Later Period at Eihei-ji Temple,” 245-273.
- Ishikawa Rikizan.** 1998. The Social Response of Buddhists to the Modernization of Japan: The Contrasting Lives of Two Sōtō Zen Monks. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 25/1–2 pp 87-115.
- Isomae Junichi.** 2005. Deconstructing “Japanese Religion:” A Historical Survey. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 32/2: 235–248.
- Japan Buddhist Federation.** 2004. *A Guide to Japanese Buddhism*. Tokyo.
- Josephson, Jason Ānanda.** 2006. When Buddhism Became a “Religion” Religion and Superstition in the Writings of Inoue Enryō. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 33/1: 143–168.
- Keown, Damien.** 2005. *Buddhist Ethics: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Laumakis, Stephen J.** 2008. *An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy*. Cambridge University Press.
- MacWilliams, Mark Wheeler.** 2000. Japanese Comics and Religion: Osamu Tezuka’s Story of the Buddha. In Timothy J. Craig (ed.), *Japan pop! : inside the world of Japanese popular culture*, pp. 109-137. Armonk, N.Y. : M.E. Sharpe. 302.1/JA
- McIntosh, Christopher.** 2005. *Gardens Of The Gods: Myth, Magic and Meaning in Horticulture*. London: I.B. Tauris & Co Ltd. *excerpt: Chapter 2: Balancing The Forces Of Nature: Chinese And Japanese Gardens. 18-34.
- Miyamoto Yuki.** 2005. Rebirth in the Pure Land or God’s Sacrificial Lambs? Religious Interpretations of the Atomic Bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 32/1: 131–159
- Morgan, Peggy, and Lawton, Clive A.** 2007. *Ethical Issues in Six Religious Traditions, 2nd Edition*. Edinburgh University Press.
- Kyburz, Josef A.** 1997. Magical Thought at the Interface of Nature and Culture. In Pamela J. Asquith and Arne Kalland (eds), *Japanese images of nature: cultural perspectives*. Richmond: Curzon, pp. 257-279. 361.5/AS
- Nelson, John K.** 1996. Freedom of Expression: The Very Modern Practice of Visiting a Shinto Shrine. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 23/1–2: 117-153.
- Nishitani Keiji.** 2006. *On Buddhism*. Albany: State University of New York Press. *excerpt: Introduction, 1-20.
- Nitschke, Günter.** 2003. *Japanese Gardens: Right Angle and Natural Form*. Köln: Taschen. *especially 115-120, 127-129.

- Nordin, Kenneth. D.** 2005. Buddhist Symbolism in Akira Kurosawa's *Ran*: A Counterpoint to Human Chaos. *Asian Cinema*, (16), No.2, Fall/Winter, pp. 242-254.
- O'Neal, Michael, Jones, J. Sydney, Schlager, Neil, and Weisblatt, Jayne** (Eds). 2006. *World Religions Reference Library*. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale UXL. *excerpts: Buddhism. Dalai Lama. Nichiren. Shinto. Tales from the Kojiki. The Buddha.
- Omoya Shinsuke.** 1998. The Development of Modern Household Objects: Modernization of Pots and Pans in Japan, 1900 – 1970. *Third Asia Design Conference Proceeding*.
- _____. 1996. The Development of Modern Household Objects: Electric Pots and Thermos Bottles in Post-War Japan. *Proceedings of the First China-Japan Joint International Symposium on Industrial Design*. Beijing: International Academic Publishers.
- Reader, Ian and Swanson, Paul L.** 1997. Editors' Introduction: Pilgrimage in the Japanese Religious Tradition. *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 24/3–4 pp 225-270.
- Reynolds, Frank E., and Carbine, Jason A.** (Eds). 2000. *The Life of Buddhism*. Berkeley: U of California Press. *especially: Chapter 1: Temples & Monastic Complexes (Japan), Chapter 7: Meditation (Japan), Chapter 14: Death & Beyond (Japan).
- Rue, Loyal.** 2005. *Religion Is Not About God: How Spiritual Traditions Nurture Our Biological Nature And What to Expect When They Fail*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. *especially: Chapter 9. Buddhism, 279-310.
- Sato Kenji.** 1999. More Animated Than Life. *Kyoto Journal* 41, pp. 22-27.
- Sokol, Kathy Arlyn.** 2008. Zen at War: The Buddhist Enablement of Japanese Militarism. *Kyoto Journal* 69, 76-81.
- Suzuki, D.T.** 1935/1950. *Manual of Zen Buddhism*. Kyoto: Eastern Buddhist Soc. 1934. London: Rider & Company, 1950, 1956.
- Varley, Paul.** 2000. *Japanese Culture, 4th Edition*. University of Hawaii Press.

Assignments

25% - Reading Report: Each student should submit a three-page review/commentary on one or more of these ten readings:

Rahula *What the Buddha Taught* *excerpt: Chapters 2-5.

Suzuki *Zen and Japanese Culture* *excerpt: pp. 21-28.

Ishida *Genjōkōan*.

Ishida *The Seventh Step in This World of Dukkha*.

Ishida *Salvation for Oneself and Others*.

Ishida *Nietzsche and Samsara*.

Ishida *Otto's Theory of Religious Experience*.

Ishida *Shinjin and Satori in the Here and Now*.

Ishida *Ontological Implications of Pure Land*.

Ishida *Zazenshin: Admonition for Sitting-meditation*.

Due: **October 30** by email to both Prof. Ishida at ishida.ho@shc.usp.ac.jp and Prof. Klinger at klinger.w@office.usp.ac.jp

*Please write "JCMU-USP (Your Name)" in the Subject Line of your email.

40% - Final Paper: The Final Paper should be about 8 to 10 A4 double-spaced typed pages, covering a topic or topics relating to the readings, lectures or field trips. This paper is an academic research paper and is not for your personal evaluations, critiques, or comments about the course contents, the lecturers' performance, etc. Students are encouraged to visit instructors during office hours or by appointment for further guidance.

The paper should be in computer file format and be emailed to both Prof. Ishida at ishida.ho@shc.usp.ac.jp and Prof. Klinger at klinger.w@office.usp.ac.jp no later than **December 10 at 17:00** (on the final lecture day) in order to meet the JCMU deadline for submitting grades. *Please write “JCMU-USP (*Your Name*)” in the Subject Line of your email. Papers found to have been plagiarized will be returned.

15% - Reflection Paper: The Reflection paper should be about 3 to 5 A4 size typed pages, and is due (**December 10 at 17:00**) together with the Final Paper. This paper may include personal reflections from your experiences in the field study trips, critiques comparing and contrasting Buddhism and Japanese religions with your own religious beliefs or lack thereof, comments about the value and effectiveness of the course content and the instructors’ services, etc. Papers will not be graded on whether the instructors agree with your opinion or not, but on your ability in presenting your comments and ideas in a thoughtful and well-organized style. Students who are uncomfortable about making personal statements or comments may instead submit an additional academic report of the same length on a topic different from the submitted Final Paper but still relating to the themes of this course.

20% - Class Participation: Participation is vital to the quality of this course. Instructors will make a distinction between attendance and participation. The latter means the student actively engages in discussions and with the material.

Attendance and Grading

Attendance: Two unexcused absences will result in a loss of half of the class participation grade (see above) making any grade higher than a “B” unlikely. Three or more unexcused absences will result in the total loss of the class participation grade making any grade higher than a “C” unlikely.

Grading Policy: Final grades will be calculated as follows. The Lead Instructor reserves the right to curve the final distribution if warranted.

90-100% 4.0 A	85- 89% 3.5 A-/B+	80- 84% 3.0 B	75- 79% 2.5 B-/C+	70- 74% 2.0 C
65- 69% 1.5 C-/D+	60- 64% 1.0 D/D-	Below 60 0.0 Fail		

Make-up Policy and Late Assignments: An official medical note or a written excuse from the JCMU Resident Director are the only circumstances considered as excused absences for which make-up quizzes will be permitted or late assignments will be accepted. Make-up quizzes may be different from the original given in class. Instructors reserve the right to give partial credit for writing assignments submitted late.

Additional Information

Academic Integrity: All institutions of higher education, including the University of Shiga Prefecture, the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, and each of your home institutions have statements and policies regarding Academic Integrity. You are responsible for knowing and conforming to these. Be aware that cheating of any kind is ground for a failing course grade as well as any other institutional action that may be warranted. Plagiarism (which includes paraphrasing material but not citing it) is considered a violation of the standards of academic integrity.

Course Changes: The scheduling and contents of this syllabus are tentative and subject to change. Any changes will be announced as early as possible. Instructors reserve the right to assign additional short readings or other assignments as appropriate. Any significant change to the course will be discussed with the class prior to implementing the change.

Classroom Etiquette: Students are expected to maintain the highest levels of respect for their classmates and course instructors. This respect includes being considerate during lectures and discussions as well as respecting others time by being on time for course meetings. Tardiness or lack of consideration in other ways will influence your course participation grade. All participants must observe the regulations of the temples on the Field Studies, including regulations about alcohol consumption and offensive behavior.

Dropping the Course: Students who begin the course are expected to complete it. Dropping the course due to extenuating circumstances is possible but only in accordance with the policies of JCMU and your home institution.

Special Consideration: Students needing special consideration due to disability should work with the JCMU Resident Director and their home institution's office of disability services to obtain the proper documentation to be granted special consideration.

Studying for this Class: If you wish to learn from this class, come to class having read the day's assignments. Lectures and field trips will make much more rewarding if you are prepared. Review your lecture notes after each class and clarify any unclear material. Come to each class with any questions you need answered concerning the lecture notes or your reading notes.

	<i>e-mail</i>	<i>Office Telephone</i>	<i>Office Number & Office Hours</i>
Lead Instructor:			
Hoyu ISHIDA Professor of Religion	ishida.ho@shc.usp.ac.jp	0749-28-8253	A1-102 W3:40-4:20 or anytime upon request
Guest Instructors:			
Shinsuke OMOYA	somoya@shc.usp.ac.jp	8435	D2-209 W3:40-4:20
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