

FOUNDATIONAL TEACHINGS –9-CLASS SERIES – FALL 2020

Purpose:

This class is designed to cover fundamental concepts of Buddhism and Zen. It can be apprehended at many levels and is appropriate for advanced as well as beginning students. Each class syllabus contains considerably more material than can be covered in an ordinary class period. In the second round, the instructor should focus on that material which was not adequately covered in the first round, and on emphasizing the more subtle translations and connections in previous material.

CLASS GOALS:

- 1.) Gain an understanding of basic Buddhist beliefs
- 2.) Practice the shared vocabulary of Buddhist thought
- 3.) Understand the place of Zen practice within general Buddhism

CLASS	DATE	TOPIC	LINKS
CLASS 1	September 9	The Buddha's life and the establishment of Buddhism	Syllabus
NO CLASS	September 16	NO CLASS	(Three Robes retreat)
CLASS 2	September 23	The Skandhas; The Three Marks; The First and Second Noble Truths	<i>Fire Sermon</i> <i>First Sermon</i>
CLASS 3	September 30	The Third and Fourth Noble Truths; the Six Worlds	Six Worlds mandala
CLASS 4	October 7	Karma and Rebirth; Sange	12-Fold Chain of Causation
CLASS 5	October 14	Nirvana and enlightenment; emptiness	Nagarjuna quotes
CLASS 6	October 21	Buddhist practices	Gathas

NO CLASS	October 28	NO CLASS	(Segaki retreat)
CLASS 7	November 4	Precepts	<i>The Five Precepts</i> <i>Kyojukaimon</i>
CLASS 8	November 11	The modern Buddhist world	Dharma Rain culture document
CLASS 9	November 18	Forms	Evaluation