

Course Code & No. - Section:	ARTH 480, Section 1
Course Title (Credits):	Buddhist Art History
Term & Year:	Fall 2009
Course Ref. No. (CRN):	80184
Instructor:	Erika Cole O'Malley
Phone(s):	512-484-9166 (cell)
Email:	eomalley@sierranevada.edu
Office:	Executive Offices (2 nd floor Prim Library)
Office Hours:	by appointment, 8-5pm M-F.
Class Meeting Time:	
Location:	Prim Library 214
Prerequisites/Corequisites:	None

Course Description

This course will cover the history of Buddhist art in India, Tibet, Nepal, China, Thailand, Cambodia, and Japan.

Student Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Analyze the progression of art styles and their relationship to Buddhist theology and culture;
- Understand the role of art in a religious society;
- Identify and explain the meaning of standard Buddhist symbols and other iconography;
- Write about and discuss major works of Buddhist art and characteristics of style.

Instructional Strategies

This 45 hour course will be conducted as a combination of illustrated lecture presentations and class discussions. Student participation is essential. Writing and analytical skills will be emphasized.

Texts:

Denise Patry Leidy, *The Art of Buddhism: An Introduction to Its History and Meaning*.

Huston Smith, *Buddhism*

A Survival Guide for Art History Students.—suggested—

Jane Aaron, *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook*, Sixth Edition. —suggested—

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Your grade will be determined by point totals in the following categories:

PARTICIPATION + ATTENDANCE	100 points	100
HOMEWORK (Ten Reading Responses)	10 points each	100
QUIZ	50 points	50
3 EXAMS	100 points each	300
1 ST SHORT RESEARCH PAPER	200 points	200
2 ND SHORT RESEARCH PAPER	250 points	250
		1000 TOTAL

Grades will be calculated in the following manner:

<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Total Points:</u>	<u>Percentage:</u>
A-/+	900-1000 pts	90 - 100 %
B-/+	800-899 pts	80 - 89 %
C-/+	700-799 pts	70 - 79 %
D-/+	600-699 pts	60 - 69 %
F	< 600 pts	< 60 %

Syllabus: Buddhist Art History, ARH 480

HOMEWORK/READING RESPONSES

Each Wednesday, you will receive a set of questions to consider as you do the weekend's reading. You should type your answers and bring **two copies** to class on Monday. One copy you will turn in to me for a completion grade. The other copy you will keep with you during class to take notes on as we go over the answers in class. These questions will be extremely helpful for you as you study for your exams.

3 MAJOR EXAMS

The three exams, including the Final, will cover the lectures and assigned Reading Responses, and will not be primarily cumulative. You should, however, expect to make comparisons with previous units and draw conclusions about style.

If you don't show up for an exam, you will get a zero. Period.

The tests will consist of two sections:

- Slide identifications from the slide list attached to this syllabus: you must provide the DATE, COUNTRY and TITLE/SUBJECT.
- Written discussions of artwork and/or readings covered in the unit.

RESEARCH PAPERS

You will write two short research papers in this class. The first paper will be due at Midterm and the second will be due near the end of the semester. Each paper can be about any subject that interests you, but should be related to Buddhism and Art History. We will discuss subject matter in class. Chapter 5 of [A Survival Guide for Art History Students](#) will serve as an excellent resource as you work on this project. Please use the following guidelines:

- 1000-1500 words (between 4 and 6 double-spaced pages, with 1" margins)
- 10 or 12 pt, Times New Roman or similar font.
- Proper Chicago Style [footnotes](#) (no endnotes please) and a Bibliography are required in the Research Paper. You may find details about Chicago Style citations in the *Little, Brown Compact Handbook*.

You should type your paper and turn in a hard copy in class on the due date; I will also require you to submit the file electronically via email.

Attendance and Behavior

I do take attendance and **you will be penalized for missing class**, by losing a letter grade for each absence after the first three. Please see me [in advance](#) if you have an athletic travel schedule or other extenuating circumstances. I am a reasonable person. Severe medical emergencies and religious holidays count as extenuating circumstances; family vacations do not. Chronic Lateness will also be penalized at my discretion. Cell-phone ringers and vibrations should be off. Please do not surf the internet, send text messages, or check your email in my class (or anyone else's).

Late Work

I do not accept late work. If you are genuinely sick or have a real emergency, please contact me [in advance](#) of your deadline and we can make arrangements. I will be much less sympathetic after the fact. This is especially true for exams.

A note on Intellectual Honesty

Like you, I use the internet and know how to download other people's papers. I also read your classmates' work. I encourage you to work with your classmates on your weekly reading assignments; however, you must write your own answers. **If you turn in writing that is substantially the same as your friend's, neither of you will get credit.** This is not negotiable. Plagiarism on writing assignments or Cheating on tests will have similar results, and will be reported to the college for disciplinary action.

Academic Accommodations: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

Honor Code Statement

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the honor code and consequences for violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM, and FABRICATION and refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the honor code become part of a student's academic record.

Online Resources:

Glossary of Buddhist Terms:

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/glossary.htm>

The first discourse of the Buddha (annotated):

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/symbols.htm>

Interactive explanation of the Bhavachakra:

<http://www.buddhanet.net/wheel2.htm>

Explanation and description of various examples of Buddhist art:

<http://www.buddhanet.net/gallery.htm>

Explanation of the main Buddhist Deities from various deities:

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/deities.htm>

Explanation of the most important Buddhist Symbols:

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/symbols.htm>

Seattle Museum's Interactive Buddhist Art exhibit:

<http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/exhibit/interactives/buddhism/enter.asp>

Pacific Asia Museum's Interactive Buddhist Art exhibit:

<http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org/buddhism/index.htm>

The Rubin Museum of Tibetan Art (the largest collection worldwide of Tibetan art):

<http://www.rmanyc.org/>

The Asia Society's AskAsia.com online library:

<http://askasia.org/>

APSARA, the Cambodian government organization that oversees Angkor Wat:

<http://www.autoriteapsara.org/en/angkor.html>