

DIPLOMA IN PĀLI AND BUDDHIST STUDIES

Spring 2021 (4th semester)

DPBS 13074 Abhidhamma and Development of Buddhist Thought

CREDIT HOURS: 4 (60 hours)

DATES: Mar 6-7, Mar 20-21, Apr 3-4, Apr 17-18, May 1-2

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I. REFERENCES:

1. The Abhidhammatta Sangaha: a Comprehensive Manual of Abhidhamma, translation and commentary by Bhikkhu Bodhi, 2000 (“CMA” on syllabus)
2. The Path of Purification: The Visuddhimagga, translation and commentary by Venerable Nanamoli, 2010 (“V” on syllabus)
3. Manual of Abhidhamma, Narada Thera, 2013
4. The Abhidhamma in Practice, N.K. G. Mendis, 2006
5. An Outline of Abhidhamma, A. Olendzki, 2008
6. The Mechanics of Buddhism, Tilak Marapana, 2006
7. The Theravada Abhidhamma, Y. Karunadasa, 2014 (“K” on syllabus)
8. Abhidhamma Studies, Nyanaponika Thera, 1998
9. The Vision of Dhamma, Nyanaponika Thera, 2010
10. The Authenticity of Early Buddhist Texts, Bhikku Sujato and Bhikkhu Brahmali,
11. Bhavanga and Rebirth According to the Abhidhamma, article by Rubert Gethin, 1994
12. Buddhist Philosophy of Relations, Ledi Sayadaw, 1986
13. The Conditionality of Life, Venerable Nina Van Gorkom, 2010
14. All of Us, Sister Ayya Khema, 1994

III. SCHEDULE AND SUBJECT OUTLINE:

Dates	Lecture Topics	Lecturer
Mar 6: 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	Overview and introduction to Abhidhamma; the 4 ultimate realities; authenticity issues (selections from The Authenticity of Early Buddhist Texts by Bhikkhu Sujato and Bhikkhu Brahmali)	Bhante Sumitta
Mar 6 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT	Abhidhamma Controversies and Different Schools (selections from The Theravada Abhidhamma by Y. Karunadasa, Abhidhamma Studies by Nyanaponika Thera)	Bhante Sumitta
Mar 7 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	<u>Lecture 1: Citta Introduction and Overall Classification</u> – Visualization exercise + approach to this study (Olendzki overview article) – Defining devices (CMA page 29, K page 8) and citta – Citta as a unit (with definition of cetasika and relationship) – Classification overall scheme (CMA and Chapter 1 Manual of Abhidhamma by Narada Thera) – Spheres of consciousness <u>Lecture 2: Specific Citta Categories X 89, 121</u> – Unwholesome, beautiful, rootless cittas in sense sphere	Dr. Beth Jacobs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine material, immaterial and supramundane sphere citta (CMA, chapter 1 and Nyanaponika Thera, Abhidhamma Studies, chapters 2 and 3) 	
<p>Mar 7 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT</p>	<p><u>Lecture 1: Full Cognitive Process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 17 steps of a full cognitive process (CMA 149-178, brain picture from Biological Psychology, by Rosenzweig et al) <p><u>Lecture 2: Citta in Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citta X 14 functions (CMA pages 122-129) - Concept of bhavanga (Bhavanga and Rebirth According to the Abhidhamma, article by Rupert Getthin) - Citta in experience, consciousness, thought (K pages 73-81) 	
<p>Mar 20 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT</p>	<p><u>Lecture 1: Cetasika Overview and Categorization</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relationship citta X cetasika review - Classifications of cetasika (CMA pages 76-91, K pages 103-144) - Illimitables in relation to cetasikas and 6 pairs (CMA 89-90 and 87-88, K pages 137-140 and 140-144) <p><u>Lecture 2: Cetasika in the Abhidhamma System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Association and Combination Methods (CMA pages 91-110) - Universal cetasikas in experience 	Dr. Beth Jacobs
<p>Mar 20 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT</p>	<p><u>Lecture 1: Further Understanding of Cognitive Process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review 17 steps of full process - Citta X feelings and emotion in the Abhidhamma (CMA pages 114-119 (Nyanaponika Thera The Discourse-Grouping on Feelings) - Citta X Roots (CMA pages 36-45 and 119-122) <p><u>Lecture 2: Cognitive Scheme and Cognitive Experience</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding the mind as a sense (chart) - Six Sixes (CMA page 150) - citta categorized X doors, bases and types of objects (CMA chapter 3) - Citta and types of consciousness, processes and presentation of objects - Partial experiences of citta, mindfulness and importance of registration (CMA on registration pages 171-175, Nyanaponika Thera in The Vision of Dhamma, pages 71-116). 	
<p>Mar 21 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT</p>	<p><u>Lecture 1: Classifications of Experience</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Khandas in experience (and clinging, similes V page 692-4) - Khandas X characteristic of conditioned reality (V pages 431-496, 664-665) - Khandas X personality errors (CMA pages 267) <p><u>Lecture 2: Khandas, Bases, Elements and Emptiness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 Ultimates as aggregates, sense bases and elements (CMA 286 through chart 288) - Relate to Maha Prajna Paramita Hridaya Sutra and emptiness 	Dr. Beth Jacobs
<p>Mar 21 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT</p>	<p><u>Lecture 1: Compendium of Unwholesome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hindrances with sutta similes (CMA 265 – 271, SN 46:55, V pages 712-716) - Other unwholesome categories - Anusaya (Ayya Khema dharma talk, Freud on repetition compulsion) <p><u>Lecture 2: Requisites of Enlightenment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of 37 Requisites of Enlightenment (CMA 278-284, V page 707-710, selections from Thanissaro Bhikkhu's The Wings to Awakening) - Observing ego concept parallels (Western psych. article, TBD, V page 670 and 652-3) 	

Apr 3 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	Material processes; elements; classification and groups of material processes; origination and occurrence of material processes; nibbana (Chapter 6, Manual of Abhidhamma by Narada Thera and CMA, Chapter 7)	Bhante Sumitta
Apr 3 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
Apr 4 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	(Main references for Day 6 are CMA, pages 303-325, Ledi Sayadaw's Buddhist Philosophy of Relations and Nina Van Gorkom's The Conditionality of Life. Others noted in specific lectures) <u>Lecture 1: Introduction to Dependent Origination</u> – Brief discussion of scale and time (K chapter 16, Abhidhamma Studies by Venerable Nyanaponika Thera, chapter V) – 12 links of dependent origination on wheel of life and death (brief mention of Mahanidana Sutta also) <u>Lecture 2: 12 Links in Terms of Structural Elements</u> – Discussion of links in terms of elements of Abhidhamma study to date, including cittas, cetasikas and associated material processes	Dr. Beth Jacobs
Apr 4 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
Apr 4 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
Apr 17 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	(Chapter 5, CMA and Chapter 5 Manual of Abhidhamma by Venerable Narada) – Process freed existence, planes of existence; rebirth linking; 4 types of kamma; results of kamma; processes of death and rebirth	Bhante Sumitta
Apr 17 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
Apr 18 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	(Chapter 9 CMA, Chapter 9 Narada, Chapters 18 -23, V, dissertation material) Calm and insight paths; meditation subjects and different temperaments; purity levels, right view; paths and different individuals; attainment, arahatship	
Apr 18 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
May 1 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	Revision	
May 1 3-6 PM CT/ 1-4 PM PT		
May 2 8-11 AM CT/ 6-9 AM PT	Mock exam	
May 2 3-6 PM CT/1-4 PM PT	Final Q&A session	