LUMBINI BUDDHIST UNIVERSITY
Course of study
M.A. 1st. Year in Mahayana Buddhism

History of Buddhism

MA in Mahayan Buddhism
Paper IA
MAMB 501

First year
Full Mark: 50,
Teaching Hours: 75

Unit 1 Introductory Background
1. Sources of History of Buddhism
2. Introduction of Janapada and Mahajanapadas of 5th century BC
3. Buddhism as Religion and Philosophy

Unit II Origin and Development of Buddhism
1. Life of Buddha from birth to Majhaparinirvan
2. Buddhist Councils
3. Introduction to Eighteen Nikayas
4. Rise of Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhism

Unit III Expansion of Buddhism in Asia
1. Expansion of Buddhism in south:
2. Expansion of Buddhism in North

Unit IV Buddhist Learning Centers
1. Viharas as seat of Education Learning Centers (Early Vihar establishments)
2. Development of Learning Centers:
3. Fall of Ancient Buddhist Learning Centers

Unit V Revival of Buddhism in India in modern times
1. Social Religious Movement during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.
2. Movement of the Untouchables in the twentieth centuries.
3. Revival of Buddhism in India with special reference to contributions of Anagarika Dhammapala and B.R. Ambedkar

Suggested Readings:
Buddhism of Nepal

MA in Mahayan Buddhism
First Year
Paper I B
Full mark 50
MAMB 502
Teaching Hours: 75

Unit I Historical Background 15
1. Svayambhu Puran as source of Buddhism of Nepal
2. Visit of Buddhs, Ananda and Ashoka to the Nepal Valley
3. Buddhism through Ages- (Historical account of Buddhism during Licchavi, Early Mediaval and Mediaval period.
   a. Classification of Age
   b. Historical Account of Buddhism during Kirat, Lichchhavci, Early and Later Medieval Period
   c. Buddhism during the Lichchhavi Period
   d. Contribution of Lichchhavi rulers to the promotion of Buddhism in Nepal
   e. Buddhism during early and later Mediaval period
   f. Contribution of contemporary rulers in the development of the Buddhism of Nepal

Unit II Buddhism of Nepal Mandala 20
1. Concept of Triple Gem (Tri Ratna)
2. Classification of Vihars of Nepal Mandala and their tradition.
3. Religious Practices:
   a. Daily Practices,
   b. Occasional Practices: Vrata,
   c. Dan (generosity) practices: Pancadana, Samyakdan and Navadan.
4. Feasts and festivals:
   a. Chariot festival of Karunamaya of Kathmandu and Lalitpur,
   b. Gunla, Mataya of Lalitpur
5. Priciple Buddhist sites of Nepal Mandala

Unit III Buddhism of Khasa Kingdom 5
1. Introduction of Khasa Kingdom
2. Contributions of Khasa Kings to the promotion of Buddhism in Western Nepal

Unit IV Buddhism of Northern Nepal 15
1. Introduction to Northern Nepal
2. Buddhist Ethnic groups of Northern Nepal
3. Prominent Sects:
4. Prominent Gumbas:
   a. Tengboche (Solu), b. Bigu Tashi (Dolkha), c. Tsarang (Mustang), d. Shey (Dolpa)
5. Feasts and festivals
6. Important Buddhist Sites

Unit V Theravada Buddhism in Nepal
1. Revival of Theravada Buddhism in 19th century
2. Movement of Theravada Buddhism in Nepal
3. Present state of Theravada Buddhism in Nepal
4. Monastic functions
   a. Ordination, b. Order, c. Theravada Buddhist Practices,

Suggested Reading—


Course Objectives

The Main objectives of this course is to provide preliminary knowledge of Sanskrit Grammar, Hybrid Sanskrit and Sanskrit metres; it will facilitate students to read Sanskrit texts.

Unit I Sanskrit Alphabet
1. Introduction to Devanagari as Sanskrit Script
2. Introduction to Sanskrit Grammar
3. Masculine and Neuter Nouns in व Prepositions
4. Personal Pronouns: Accusative
5. Sandhi: anusvara, visarga
6. Verbs: Fourth, Sixth, Tenth
7. Conjugations, Active
8. Negation and Some Connectives: न, च, बा, एव
9. Sandhi: न-ण
10. Explanation of Cases
11. Active परस्परविद्या Verbs: Past imperfective, Potential

Unit II Declension of Personal Pronouns Use of Indeclinable
1. Feminine Nouns in आ, इ, ए, ऑ.
2. Pronouns: हिं, यद् एवत्
3. Masculine Nouns in इ and ए
4. Sandhi: visarga, vowels
5. Middle आत्मनेवाभियत्व Verbs Present Tense
6. Sandhi: vowels
7. Middle आत्मनेवाभियत्व Verbs: Past Imperfect, Imperfective, Potential
8. Affixes: विन्, वन्
9. Gerunds and Infinitives
10. Masculine and Feminine Nouns in छा
11 Sandhi: Consonants

Unit III Forms of Verb
1. Neuter Nouns in ृ, ॄ, ो, ो
2. Adjectives
3. Verbs with Prepositions उपस्वर्ग
4. The Passive Voice कर्मिण्य प्रयोग
5. Future Tense (षण type)
6. Irregular and Rare Nouns ending in vowels
7. Nouns Ending in Consonants: One-stem type
8. Present Active Participles for Active परस्परविद्या Verbs
9. Future Active Particles
10. Present Active Particles for Middle Verbs
11. Present Passive Particles

Unit IV
1. Past (Imperfect) Particles (in- and -t)
2. Demonstrative Pronouns इदम् and अद्यस्
3. Nouns with Two Stems
4. More Nouns with Two Stems, Nouns with Three Stems
5. Degrees of Comparison
6. Conjugations
7. Compounds समास
8. Locative and Genitive Absolutes
9. Sanskrit Numerals
10. Gerundives, Present Middle Particles
11. In आन, Periphrastic -तान Future
12. Past perfect
13. Past Aorist

Unit V
1. Conditional Mood
2. Benedictive Mood
3. Secondary Verb Roots
4. Causative Verbs
5. Desiderative Verbs
6. Syntax of Ditransitive Verbs
7. Intensive/Frequentive Verbs
8. Denominative Verbs
9. Gerunds in -अम
10. Irregular consonant-ending nouns

Unit VI
1. Past (Imperfect) Particles (in- and -t)
2. Demonstrative Pronouns इदम् and अद्यस्
3. Nouns with Two Stems
4. More Nouns with Two Stems, Nouns with Three Stems
5. Degrees of Comparison
6. Conjugations
7. Compounds समास
8. Locative and Genitive Absolutes
9. Sanskrit Numerals
10. Gerundives, Present Middle Particles
11. In आन, Periphrastic -तान Future
12. Past perfect
13. Past Aorist
Unit VII

पुलिडः-स्कीलिडः-नपुसकलिडः वन्यशास्त्र

Unit VIII Sanskrit Readings

Practices of Selected Words
Unit IX Sanskrit Metres

Unit X Translation from Nepali or English to Sanskrit Language

Required Texts:
1. Deshpande, Madhav M., A Sanskrit Primer, Michigan: Centers for South and Southeast, 2007
3. Pandey, Ram Avadh and Mishra, Ravinath, पाद-प्रा क्र- अपरमन्द संग्रह, वाराणसी विश्वविद्यालय प्रकाशन, 2009
4. Nyaupane, Kashinath and Mical, Wieslaw, Sanskrit Metres – (विस्तारित मात्र), Kathmandu: Rangjuling Yeshe Institute, 2008
5. Arya Sura, Jatakamala, Delhi: MLBD, 1996
7. Goldman, Robert P. and Golman, Sally J.S. –देवबाणी प्रकाशन, Delhi: MLBD, 2004
Buddhist Literature

MA in Mahayana Buddhism
First Year
Paper II B
Full Mark 50
MAMB 508
Teaching Hours 75

Unit I Introductory Background
1. Evolution of 'Buddha vacana' to Buddhist Literature
2. Meaning of Dharma as 'Buddha Vachana' in the context of Tri-Ratna ie. Buddha, Dharma and Sangha with special reference to eighty four thousand 'Dharma Skanda'
3. Introduction to Navang (Nine Angas) and Dwadasang (Twelve Angas)

Unit II Formation of Pali Literature
1. Origin and development of Pali Tripitaka
2. Sutta
3. Vinaya
4. Abhidhamma
5. Attakatha
6. Anupitaka

Unit III Formation of Sanskrit Tripitaka
1. Origin and development of Sanskrit literature
2. Agama
3. Sutra
4. Vinaya
5. Abhidharma
6. Tantra
7. Shastra

Unit IV Translated Canons: Origin and Development
1. Chinese Tripitaka
2. Korean Tripitaka
3. Tibetan Tripitaka
4. Mongolian Tripitaka

Unit V Buddhist Tripitaka in the Digital age
1. e-resources of Buddhist manuscripts
2. e-books and translations of Buddhist texts

Suggested Readings
1. Beal, Samuel, Buddhist Tripitaka as it is Known in China and Japan, London: Clarke and Son, 1876.
18. Santina, Peter de la, The Tree of Enlightenment, Taiwan: Chico Dharma Study Foundation, 1997
Objectives

The Course aims to impart the students' knowledge on general Buddhist Philosophy and traditions. It helps them understand the reality of the universe and human beings' existence within cosmological, theological and philosophical understandings and the ways these motivate ordinary and extraordinary human lives.

The course is categorized into seven units. General Buddhist concepts following which Buddhists advance in their practice are included in Unit First and those, which are known as basic Buddhist teachings, are the subjects under Unit Second. Unit third gives a brief introduction to Buddhist meditation. Unit Four introduces four philosophical schools of Buddhism and Buddhist logics that serve as bases for further readings. Unit Five includes some important Mahayana concepts. Unit six throw light on Vajrayana Philosophy and Practice. Unit seven deals with common Buddhist principles on Karma and rebirth, common Buddhist practices, role of laity in Buddhism, monasticism, social dimension of Buddhism etc. earlier Buddhist meditation practice.

Unit I General Buddhist concepts
1. *Tri-ratna* (Triple Gems)
2. *Tri-sarana* (Triple refuge)
3. *Punyasambhara* and *jnanasambhara* (Accumulation of merits and knowledge)
4. *Panca-Sila* (Five precepts)

Unit II Buddhist Teachings
1. *Four Noble Truths*
2. Sufferings
3. Arising of Suffering
4. Cessation of Suffering
5. The path leading to cessation of suffering
6. Law of Dependent Origination
7. Interdependence
8. Relativity
9. Conditionality
10. Twelve linked cycle of origination
11. Three Universal Characteristics
   a. Impermanence, b. Suffering, c. Selflessness
12. *Arahat* and Nirvana
13. *Bodhisattva* and Buddha-hood in *Sravakyana*

Unit III Buddhist Meditation
1. *Samatha* Meditation: Its objectives, types and importance
2. *Vipasyana* Meditation: Its objectives, types and importance
Unit IV Four Philosophical Buddhist Doctrines and Buddhist Logics

1. Vaibhasika doctrine
   a. Meaning, sub-schools and etymology
   b. Theory of Dharmas of Sarvastivada
      c. Concept of Pratisankhyanirodha and Apratisankhyanirodha, Prapti, Aprapti, Avijnapti
2. Sautrantic doctrine
   a. Meaning, sub-schools and etymology
   b. Theory of Momentary-ness
   c. Concept of Perception and Apperception
3. Madhyamika doctrine
   a. Meaning, sub-schools and etymology
   b. Two Truths: Samvrittisatya and Paramarthasatya
   c. Concept of Sunyata, Anutpada, Catuskoti (Fourfold analysis)
4. Yogacara Doctrine
   a. Meaning, sub-schools and etymology
   b. Theory of 'Mind Only' (Cittamatratva- Vijnaptimatasiddhi)
   c. Concept of Alayavijnana, Klistamajjavijnana and Pavittivijnana
   d. Three nature of objects Parikalpita, Paratantra and Parinispanna nature
5. Buddhist Logics
   a. Origin
   b. Pramana
   c. Buddhist epistemology
   d. Syllogism

Unit V Mahayana Philosophy

1. Bodhisattva Ideals, Bodhicitta generation, Bodhisattva precepts
2. Developing Bodhisattva Perfections (sadaparamita)
3. Ten stages of Bodhisattva
4. Concept of Tri-Kaya: Dharmakaya, Sambhogakaya, Nirmanakaya
5. Concept of Tathagata and Tathagatagarbha
6. Pudgalanairatmya and Dharmanairatmya
7. Klesavarana and Jnayavarana
8. Recitation of sutras and Dharanis

Unit VI Vajrayana Philosophy and Practice

1. Vajrayana Philosophy
   a. Vajrayana: meaning and objectives
   b. Mantra, mandala and Tantra
   c. Philosophical foundations
   d. The concepts of Sunyata and Chittamatra and their implication in Vajrayana
   e. Symbolism and Concept of Panca-Buddha
   f. Vajrayana Psychology, Physiology and Cosmology
2. Vajrayana Practice
   a. Vajrayana Initiation
   b. Vajrayana Meditation
   c. Four Systems of Tantric thought in Buddhism and its goals
Unit VII Buddhist Ethics, Monasticism and their Social dimension

1. Universalistic features of Buddhist ethics, Karma and its effects
2. Concept of Karma, rebirth, karma and motivation Criteria for good and bad action
3. Monasticism
   a. Concept and Origin
   b. Monastic Values: celibacy, role of monasticism
   c. Monasticism in Earlier Buddhism
   d. Monasticism in Later Buddhism, Mahayana reassessment of monasticism
4. Social Dimensions (of the goal) of Nibbana and Buddha-hood
5. Laity in Buddhism
6. Skillful Means

Suggested Reading:
21. Narendradeva, Boudha Darshan,
Buddhist Art and Architecture

MA in Mahayana Buddhism                                    First Year
Paper: IV                                                   Full mark 100
MAMB 510                                                      Teaching Hours: 150

Course Description
The course is divided into four parts. The first part is related to general introduction of art
and Buddhist Scripts. The second part is devoted to origin and development of Buddhist art and
architecture. The third part is concentrated on Nepalese Buddhist art and the fourth part is
related to Buddhist iconography.

Objectives
The main objective of the course is to provide basic knowledge of Buddhist Art and
Architecture as well as Buddhist Script and Iconography.

Part One
General Introduction

Unit I General introduction to Art                           15
1. Evolution, Meaning, Concept and Significance of Art
2. Introduction to Eastern and western Art
3. Types of Art
4. Basic Principles of Art

Unit II Introduction to Buddhist Scripts                     20
1. Origin of Brahmi Script as a Pali writing system
2. Brahmi Alphabets and its translation practice
3. Ashokan Pillar Inscriptions
   a. Lumbini and b. Niglihava
4. Features and Alphabets of Pracallilt Newari Script and its translation practice

Part Two
Origin and development of Buddhist Art and Architecture

Unit III Literary sources and Origin of Buddhist Symbolic Art 15
1. Buddha’s View on Art
2. Types of Buddhist Art
   a. Sippa or Sippayatana and
   b. Senis-craft unions of Buddha's period
3. Paintings
4. Sculpture Buddha images and other sculptures mentioned in Pali and Sanskrit--literature.
5. Origin of symbolic art in Buddhism

Unit IV Development of Buddhist Art Schools                  15
1. Buddhist art in Mauryan period
2. Buddhist Art of Sunga, Satavahana period
3. Mathura school of art (Kushan & Gupta)
4. Gandhara School of art (Kushana)
5. Amaravati School of art (Andhra)
6. Sarnath School of art (Gupta)
7. Pala School of Art

Unit V Origin and Development of Buddhist Architecture 15
1. Vihar Architecture: Meaning and Concept
2. Early shelters of Monks: Kuti and Ruck cut shelters
3. Five types of Lenas:
4. Features of Baha and Bahil Architecture
5. Features of Tibetan Gompa Monastery
6. Stupa Architecture:
   a. Meaning and Concept
   b. Introduction to Cetiya, Stupa and Chorten

Part Three
Buddhist Art of Nepal

Unit VI Origin and Development of Buddhist Art in Nepal 15
1. Origin of Buddhist art in Nepal
2. Features and techniques of Paubha Painting and Thanka Painting
3. Mediaval Buddhist Paintings of Nepal
4. Introduction to Buddhist Fresco and Manuscript Paintings of Nepal

Unit VII Buddhist Sculptures of Nepal 15
1. Buddhist Sculptures of Licchavi Period (Stone sculptures)
2. Techniques of Metal casting in Nepal (Lost wax casting)
3. General introduction to Repose Art of Nepal
4. Features of Medieval Buddhist Sculptures of Nepal (Metal and Wood)

Part Four
Buddhist Iconography

Unit VIII Iconography of Buddhist Deities 10
1. Meaning and Concept of Iconography
2. Chief features of Buddhist Iconography:
3. General Introduction to Buddhist Iconographical texts:
   a. Sadhanamala, a. Devapratimalaksana,
   b. Sadhanasmucchaya, b. Manjushreesadhana,
   c. Kriyasangraha, c. Nispannayogavali

Unit IX Iconography of selected deities 20
1. Dipankara Buddhas, Shakyamuni Buddha and Bhaisarjya Buddha
2. Boddhisattva Maitreya, Padmapani, Vajrapani and Manjusri
3. Vajrasattva, Vajradhara and Panchabuddha
4. Arya Tara, Prajnaparamita and Vasundhara
5. Chakrasambhara, Hevajra

Unit X Art and Rituals

1. Brief Introduction to Ritual Art
2. Mandala

Reference Book:


31. Vajracharya, Manavajra, *Nepalko Madhyakalin kala*, Kathmandu: Sucana Vibhaga,

# Research Methodology

MA in Mahayana Buddhism  
First Year  
Paper V-A  
Full Mark 50  
MAMB 513  
Teaching Hrs 75

## Objectives

Overall objective of the Research Methodology is to make student capable to perform in-depth research and write research papers. Specific objectives of the subject are to enable students:

1. To prepare research proposal, conduct a research and prepare research paper as prescribed by university.
2. To pursue research independently
3. To understand techniques and art in social science research relating to Buddhist Studies
4. To create own new vision on subject title with respect to Buddhist Studies
5. To identify and answer the research questions/problems.

## Unit I Introductory Background

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Concept and importance of Research</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Types of Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Descriptive and analytical</td>
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<td>b. Quantitative and qualitative</td>
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<td>c. Historical and Survey methods</td>
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## Unit II Sources and Types of Information

| 1. Types of evidence in Buddhist Studies |
| 2. Nature and Information               |
| a. Original, b. Primary and c. Secondary |
| 3. Collection of Information            |
| a. Observation, b. Interview, c. Questionnaire\Schedule |
| 4. Developing of Tools- Sampling        |
| 5. Archaeological (artistic and monumental information) evidence in Buddhist Studies |

## Unit III Manuscriptology and Buddhist Studies

| 1. Concept of Manuscriptology          |
| 2. Types of Manuscriptology            |
| 3. Production and preservation         |
| 4. Pali and Sanskrit manuscript in South Asia |
| 5. Textual criticism in Buddhist Manuscripts |

## Unit IV Practical Aspect of Research Methodology

| 1. Selection of Topics                 |
| 2. Statement\Identification of Research Problem |
| 3. Scope, Limitation and Rational of the topic |
| 4. Review of literature                |
| 5. Citations, Footnote and Bibliography |
| 6. Preparation of research paper       |
7. Presentation (Graphical, tabulation, charts, figures, photographs, etc)

Students are required to submit a research paper under the guidance of supervisor/professor/lecturer as a part of internal examination.

Reference:
Comparative Religion

MA in Mahayana Buddhism
First Year
Paper: V-B
Full mark 50
MAMB 515
Teaching Hours 75

Course Objective:
The objective of this course is to impart knowledge on history of major world religions. Students will further learn about their features and philosophical and textual traditions. It plays as the background knowledge to understand various aspects of Buddhism.

Unit I General Survey of World Religions
10

Unit II Hinduism
15
1. Essential Features
2. Outline of Philosophical Traditions
3. Texts

Unit III Jainism
15
1. Essential Features
2. Outline of Philosophical Traditions
3. Texts

Unit IV Confucianism and Taoism
15
1. Essential Features
2. Outline of Philosophical Traditions
3. Texts

Unit V Christianity, Islam and Judaism
20
1. Essential Features
2. Outline of Philosophical Traditions
3. Texts

Reference: