

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science



Buddhist Studies Courses for four-year Bachelor of Art (BA)

Subject Committee, Central Department of Buddhist Studies
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
VS 2076 (2019 AD)

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Structure of the Course

The four-year Buddhist Studies Programme at Tribhuvan University consists of seven Papers and one elective course (optional elective for non-Buddhist Studies majors).

Year	Paper	Code No.	Title	Full Marks	Teaching Hours	Remarks
1 st	I	BS 421	History of Buddhism	100	150	Major
1 st	II	BS 422	Buddha and His Teachings	100	150	Major
2 nd	III	BS 423	Buddhist Literatures	100	150	Major
2 nd	IV	BS 424	Buddhist Philosophy and Logics	100	150	Major
3 rd	V	BS 425	Buddhist arts, Architecture and Archaeology	100	150	Major
3 rd	VI	BS 410	Introduction to Buddha and Buddhism	100	150	Optional Elective for Non-Buddhist Studies Majors
4 th	VII	BS 426	Buddhist Cultures and Traditions in Nepal	100	150	Major
4 th	VIII	BS 427	Research Methodology, Academic Writing and Art of Translation	100	150	Major

Eligibility

To be eligible for admission to four-year BA Buddhist Studies, student will have completed and received a higher secondary certificate (10 + 2) or equivalent degree in any discipline or stream from any institution recognized by Tribhuvan University.

Evaluation Scheme

Each Course carries 100 full marks. Students have to score at list 40 marks to pass the course. Of the total 100 marks, 30 marks will be based on Continuous/internal evaluation and rest of the 70 marks will be awarded based on the students' performance in the final examination taken at the end of academic year. Student must pass both internal and final Examinations.

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History of Buddhism

Paper I

Course Code: BS 421

Full Marks: 100

Level: BA Buddhist Studies

Year: First

Objective:

1. To acquaint the knowledge on history of Buddha and Buddhism with its Sources, Major events in Buddha's time and historicity in Nepal.
2. To impart the knowledge on Buddhist historical sites, with mythology, and sacred perception followed by religious activities in Nepal.

Unit 1 Sources for the History

- 1.1 Archaeological sources: Inscriptions, Coins, Art objects, Architectural Remains from the historical monuments/sites.
- 1.2 Literary sources: Manuscripts, Colophons, Buddhist canons in different languages, Translated texts, other published materials.
- 1.3 Travel Accounts: of Pilgrims- Chinese, Indian and Other Countries.

Unit 2 Buddhist Historical Sites

- 2.1 Sixteen Mahajanapada
- 2.2 Kapilavastu (Sakyas)
- 2.3 Devadaha or Ramagrama (Koliyas)
- 2.4 Pawa and Kushinagara (Mallas)
- 2.5 Lumbini
- 2.6 Sagarhawa
- 2.7 Nighihawa
- 2.8 Gotihawa

Unit 3 Spread of Buddhism During Buddha's Time

- 3.1 Buddha's peripatetic movement
- 3.2 Development of retreat (Varsavassa) tradition
- 3.3 Coenobitic settlement
- 3.4 Footing of Buddhism in Nepal and Indian subcontinents

Unit 4 Spread of Buddhism after Buddha's Age

- 4.1 Distribution of relics and its impact on Diffusion of Buddhism
- 4.2 Convention of Buddhist councils for the propagation of Buddhism: First, Second and Third
- 4.3 Asokan Mission

Unit 5 History of Buddhism in Nepal

- 5.1 Mythological Accounts
- 5.2 Buddhism during Pre-Lichhavi period (Kirant Period)
- 5.3 Buddhism during Lichhavi Period
- 5.4 Buddhism during Medieval Period

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Unit 6 Buddhism of Nepal during Modern Period and Current Situation

- 6.1 Revival of Theravada
- 6.2 Spread of Himalayan Buddhism
- 6.3 Prevalence of Distinctive Three forms of Buddhism

References

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- Bajracharya, Surendra Man, *Buddhist Heritage of Northern Nepal*, Kathmandu: Lotus Research Centre, 2008
- Douglas-Tuladhar, Will, *Remaking Buddhism for Medieval Nepal: The Fifteenth Century Reformation of Newar Buddhism*, London: Routledge, 2006.
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- Hirakawa, Akira, *A History of Indian Buddhism: From Shakyamuni to Early Mahayana*, Honolulu: Universlity of Hawali Press, 1990.
- Law, B.C, *Kshetriya Clans in Buddhist India*, New Delhi: A.B. Service, 2005
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- Shakya, Min B. and Shanta H. Bajracharya (tr.), *SvayambhuPurana*, Lalitpur: NIEM, 1997.

Nepali

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- Bajracharya, Gautam Bir, *Lumbini, Hid budhe jate sakyamuniiti*, Lalitpur: Tara Devi Bajracharya, 2076
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- Vajracharya, Dhanavajra, *LicchavikalkoAbhilech*, Kirtipur: AsiyaliAnusandhan Kendra, 2030 VS
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- Vajracharya, Dhanavajra and K.P. Malia (ed.), *TheGopalrajvamsavali*, Nepal Research Center Publication No. 9, Wiesbaden; Franz Stiener Verlag, 1985.
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- R.N Pandey and D.C. Regmi, *NepalkoPauranik Itihas*: Kirtipur: CNAS TU

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Buddha and His Teachings



Paper II
Course Code: BS 422
Full Marks: 100

Level: BA Buddhist Studies
Year: First

Objectives

- 1 To impart the students with knowledge on Buddhism, Buddha's life and his enlightenment teachings
- 2 To acknowledge Buddha's time for educational episodes and philosophical discourses in establishment of the monastic order to monks and laities distinctively with vehicles as Sravakyaana, Mahayana and Vajrayana.
- 3 To give a picture of current Buddhist situation in Nepal.

Unit 1 Buddha and Buddhahood

- 1.1 Etymology of Term "Buddha"
- 1.2 Characteristics of Buddha
- 1.3 Samyaksambuddha
- 1.4 Pratyekabuddha
- 1.5 Srāvakabuddha

Unit 2 Life of Shakyamuni Buddha

- 2.1 Life of Siddhartha: Birth, Childhood,
- 2.2 Four events, Renunciation,
- 2.3 Penance (Duskarcarya)
- 2.4 Sambodhi Labha (Enlightenment)
- 2.5 After Sambodhi Labha up to Mahaparinirvana

Unit 3 Buddha's Basic Teachings

- 3.1 Four Noble Truths
- 3.2 Pratityasamutpada (Dependent-Origination)
- 3.3 Trilaksana (Three Universal Characteristic)

Unit 4 Specific Teachings

- 4.1 Teachings for monks and nuns (Vinaya)
- 4.2 Laity or lay followers (Grihi Vinaya)
- 4.4 Pancasila (five precepts)
- 4.5 Higher Practitioners Abhidhammic reasoning

Unit 5 Teachings Related to Sravakyaana

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 First Discourse (Prathama Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 5.3 Arhat Idealism
- 5.4 Nature of Karma (birth-death-rebirth)
- 5.5 Concept of Nibbana

Unit 6 Teachings Related to Mahayana





- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Second Discourse (Dvitiya Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 6.3 Bodhisattva Idealism
- 6.4 Stages of Bodhisattva Perfections
- 6.5 Concept of Nirvana

Unit 7 Teachings related to Vajrayana

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Third Discourse (Tritiya Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 7.3 Concept of Adi-Buddha
- 7.4 Four Means of Tantric Perfections (Kriya, Caryā, Yoga and Anuttara Yoga Tantra)
- 7.5 Concept of Nirvana

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