

# COURSE DETAIL

## CRITICAL APPROACHES TO BUDDHISM: POLITICS, ETHICS, PSYCHOLOGY

**Country**

France

**Host Institution**

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

**Program(s)**

Sciences Po Paris

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Religious Studies Philosophy

**UCEAP Course Number**

128

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CRITICAL APPROACHES TO BUDDHISM: POLITICS, ETHICS, PSYCHOLOGY

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CRTCL APPR BUDDHISM

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

### **Course Description**

This course provides a critical introduction to Buddhism and interrogates the origins and transhistorical resonances of Buddhist thought, practice, and praxis. It examines the possibility of the Buddhist turn in critical theory, one which must be irreverent and far reaching in its approach, and engages with a polyphony of voices ranging from lamas and practitioners to psychoanalysts and philosophers. The course explores whether Buddhism can function as a comprehensive framework for rethinking philosophy, politics, psychology, and the aesthetic in our current moment. It rethinks debates concerning what Buddhism really is (religion, psychology, empiricism, spirituality, tools for living, etc.) and explores how Buddhism problematizes commonplace understandings of belief and reason, mind and body, idealism and materialism, immanence and transcendence, ontology and anti-foundationalism, dream and reality, desire and gratification, and pain and pleasure. The radical Buddha is rediscovered as both a person and allegorical nexus for rethinking the condition of the world and the condition of being in the world.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

DHUM 25A22

### **Host Institution Course Title**

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### **Host Institution Course Details**

[https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/fr/?mapping/188745#\\_ga=2.96505311.1741805288.164...](https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/fr/?mapping/188745#_ga=2.96505311.1741805288.164...)

### **Host Institution Campus**

### **Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

Seminar

**Host Institution Department**

Humanities

**Course Last Reviewed**

2021-2022

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