

**PHIL5531 Topics in Buddhist Philosophy:  
Phenomenology and Buddhist Philosophy**

**Course Outline**

**Mode of Teaching:** Face-to-face Teaching

**Term:** 2022-23 Term 1

**Time :** Friday 18:30 – 21:30

**Location :** WMY 502

**Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)**

What is reality? How do we know? How shall we exist? This course intends to explore the rich sources of Buddhist philosophical traditions. Topics include emptiness and negation, theories of mind, language and perception. Attention will be given to their relevance to the contemporary discussions in Western philosophy. Readings include basic works of Abhidharma, Madhyamaka, Yogācāra and Pramāṇavāda. This semester we'll focus on the comparative studies of phenomenology and Buddhist philosophy.

**Topics/Schedule (Tentative)**

Weeks 1-3 Husserl's phenomenology

Weeks 4-6 Comparative studies of Husserl and Buddhism

Weeks 7-9 Heidegger's philosophy

Weeks 10-12 Comparative studies of Heidegger and Buddhism

**Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)**

1. Acquire knowledge of the selected topics of the course.
2. Have a solid grasp of the philosophical issues of the selected topics of the course.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with the primary/secondary source texts.
4. Be able to articulate and defend a philosophical thesis of their own

**Learning activities**

Lectures

Discussions

Presentation

Essay writing

### Assessment scheme

Task nature	Description	Weight
Essays	Final paper (around 5,000 words)	60%
Others	Presentation and Discussion	40%

### Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

### Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: [http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade\\_descriptors.pdf](http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf)

### Details of course website

Relevant announcements and course documents will be posted on Blackboard.

### Recommended learning resources (Tentative)

- Gradinarov, Plamen. 2005. "Husserl and Yogacara Book Review of Dan Lusthaus (2002)." *Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology* 5-1: 1-9.
- Heine, Steven. 1985. *Existential and Ontological Dimensions of Time in Heidegger and Dōgen*. Albany: State University of New York Press.
- Kern, Iso. 1988. "The Structure of consciousness According to Xuanzang." *Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology* 19.3: 282-295.
- Kern, Iso. 1992. "Object, Objective Phenomenon and Objectivating Act According to the Vijnaptimatratasiddhi of Xuanzang (600-664)." *Phenomenology and Indian Philosophy*, edited by D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Lester Embree and Jitendranath Mohanty (Albany: State University of New York Press), pp. 262-269.
- Larrabee, M.J. 1981. "The One and the Many: Yogācāra Buddhism and Husserl." *Philosophy East and West* 31: 3-15.
- Lau, Kwok-ying. 2016. *Phenomenology and Intercultural Understanding: Toward a New Cultural Flesh*. Dordrecht: Springer.
- Li, Jingjing. 2022. *Comparing Husserl's Phenomenology and Chinese Yogācāra in a Multicultural World: A Journey Beyond Orientalism*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Lusthaus, Dan. 2002. *Buddhist Phenomenology: A Philosophical Investigation of Yogācāra Buddhism and the Ch'eng Wei-shih Lun*. London: Routledge-Curzon.
- May, Reinhard. 1996. *Heidegger's Hidden Sources: East-Asian Influences on his Work*, translated by Graham Parkes. London and New York: Routledge.
- Mayer, Alexander L. 2009. "A Review of *Buddhist Phenomenology: A Philosophical Investigation of Yogācāra Buddhism and the Ch'eng Wei-shih Lun*." *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 16: 191-216.
- Ni, Liang-kang 倪梁康. 2019. 《緣起與實相：唯識現象學十二講》 (*Dependent Arising and Reality: Twelve Lectures on Consciousness-only Phenomenology*). Beijing: Shangwu press.
- Sharf, Robert H. 2016. "Is Yogācāra Phenomenology? Some Evidence from the *Cheng weishi lun*." *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 44.4: 777-807.

- Shiba Shun'ei 司馬春英. 2003. 《唯識思想と現象学: 思想構造の比較研究に向けて》 (*Consciousness-only Thought and Phenomenology: Toward a comparative study of thought structure*). Tokyo: Taisho University Press.
- Steffney, John. 1977. "Transmetaphysical thinking in Heidegger and Zen Buddhism." *Philosophy East and West* 27: 323-335.
- Umehara, Takeshi. 1970. "Heidegger and Buddhism." *Philosophy East and West* 20: 271-281.
- Yao, Zhihua. 2007. "Four-Dimensional Time in Dzogchen and Heidegger." *Philosophy East and West* 57.4: 512–532.
- Yao, Zhihua. 2020. *Nonexistent Objects in Buddhist Philosophy: On Knowing What There is Not*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

**Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)**

<b>Teacher</b>	
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**Academic honesty and plagiarism**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.