

Living the Dharma through Basic Buddhism

Online 7- Week Course

August 2 - September 13, 2017

Instructor: Rev. Nick Ozuna

Online Course Administered by Rissho Kosei-kai International of North America (RKINA)

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Online Class URL: <http://kosei-kai.webex.com>

Prerequisites: None

Required Reading: The Basic Teachings of Buddhism

(available for download on RKINA website)

Reference Books:

1. Buddhism for Today, Written by Nikkyo Niwano, Kosei Publishing, 1975.
2. The Threefold Lotus Sutra, Translated by Kato, Tamura and Miyasaka. Kosei Publishing, 1975. These can be purchased through the RKINA website.

Catalog Description:

This is an introductory course on Ekayana Buddhism as interpreted through the writings of Nikkyo Niwano, founder of Rissho Kosei-kai.

Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Develop an understanding of the basic teachings of Buddhism.
2. Apply the teachings to their everyday lives.
3. Convey a moderate understanding of the basic teachings to others.

Course Outline: See the “Calendar” for exact due dates of assignments. Lectures are on Wednesday evenings and the associated work is due by the following Monday.

Week Lecture	Class	Content
Aug. 2	1	The Four Noble Truths
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 1
Aug. 9	2	The Seal of the Three Laws and the Four Laws of the Dharma
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 2
Aug. 16	3	The Dharma of Causation & The Ten Suchnesses
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 3
Aug. 23		The Three Thousand Realms in One Mind
	4	Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 4
Aug. 30	5	The Eightfold Path
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 5
Sep. 6	6	The Six Perfections
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the lecture, and discussion Assignment 6

Sep. 13	7	Review
		Read text, WebEx lecture, Student reflections of the review, and discussion Assignment 7

Assignments will be given at the end of each Live Lecture. They are brief questions to reflect upon and respond through email to Rev. Ozuna at info@rkina.org

Live Lectures:

Live lectures will be given weekly through WebEX. Each Wednesday at 9:00 EST, 8:00 CST, 7:00 MST and 6:00 PST an hour lecture will be presented on the topic of the week. *See the directions for WebEx in a separate file that will be e-mailed to you along with the WebEx login password upon receipt of payment.*

Student Presentations Each student is responsible for developing and giving a presentation on one of the topics. **The presentation should include your understanding of the teaching and an example of either how you can apply it to your life, or a time when you did apply it, and what the results were.** The order of the presentations will flow according to the week that it was presented in class. For example, The Four Noble Truths will be taught on Week 1 so a student presentation on it would be on Week 2. The Eightfold Path will be taught on Week 5 so the student presentation would be on Week 6. The student presentations will follow the lecture by Rev. Ozuna and come at the end of the class. You can use Microsoft Word or Microsoft PowerPoint to for your presentation but it is not required. If you are going to have visuals, please make sure that you email them in advance to Rev. Ozuna so that they can be posted in advance. Also log in at least 30 minutes early to verify that everything is as you expect it to be. This will reduce your last minute stress and panic.

Evaluation Criteria:

Certificates will be awarded based upon performance in this course.

Type	Requirements
Certificate of Honor	Participate in all of the live presentations
	Participate in discussions every week
	Complete all of the assignments
	Demonstrate your ability to apply each of the teachings to your everyday life.
Regular Certificate	Participate in 6 of the live presentations
	Participate in 6 discussions every week
	Complete a minimum of 5 of the assignments
	Demonstrate your ability to apply each of the teachings to your everyday life.
No certificate	Do not meet the above requirements in full

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to demonstrate their knowledge with honesty and integrity. RK considers academic dishonesty to be an unacceptable practice.

ENJOY THE COURSE

Rev. Ozuna and RKINA are available to facilitate your learning by telephone or e-mail. The contact information is at the beginning of this syllabus.