

A rich tapestry of traditions and practices has been woven by various Asian cultures around the essence of the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, who lived 2,500 years ago. The enduring nature of Buddhism is symptomatic of its purity and integrity as a spiritual discipline and remains contemporary in its methods of self development. Over the past several decades, Westerners have begun to learn from and participate in this diversity and essence.

As part of its commitment to disseminate the Buddhist teachings, Kagyu E-Vam Buddhist Institute conducts the annual Buddhist Summer School as a vehicle of enquiry and learning. The popularity of the Buddhist Summer School is a mark of the developing range and depth of interest in Buddhism among Australians. This is reflected in enrolments of over 20,000 since the inception of the event in 1984. In acknowledgment of this, we continue to host distinguished Buddhist scholars and teachers from around Australia and overseas.

In this seventeenth Buddhist Summer School, a stimulating variety of courses in both theoretical and experiential Buddhism is offered, as well as meditation instruction based on a number of traditions. Two comparative courses dealing with East-West approach to well-being are also on offer.

1 THE PSYCHOLOGY OF MYSTICISM Venerable Traleg Kyabgon Rinpoche and Philip Greenway

This course will explore mysticism within Buddhism and Western religion, for it has played an important role in all of the worlds great religions.

Becoming a spiritual person involves us no longer identifying solely with our egos but more with the Self. However, our ego is often reluctant to cooperate in our spiritual growth and is taken up with its own problems, our self esteem, our need to feel that life satisfies us and the host of anxieties which beset us. How should we help our ego-self cope with its problems so that it is able to transform itself and allow us to open ourselves to the spiritual dimension present in every one of us?

The Venerable Traleg Kyabgon Rinpoche has undergone rigorous scholastic and meditative training under various Tibetan Kagyu and Nyingma masters in India. He has been a resident of Australia since 1980 and has travelled extensively in the U.S.A., S.E. Asia and Europe conducting lectures and courses. Rinpoche is the President and Spiritual Director of Kagyu E-Vam Buddhist Institute.

Philip Greenway is an academic at Monash University and a counselling psychologist interested in spiritual issues and their part in the difficulties which bring people to counselling. He studied psychology at Edinburgh University in Scotland and at the University of Louvain in Belgium where he did his doctorate. He is a member of the College of Counselling Psychologists.

4 Sessions: \$50



2 ZEN: THE PATH OF EMOTIONAL MATURITY Geoff Dawson

Zen is usually known as the path of enlightenment - but what is that? The word enlightenment is loaded with so many unrealistic projections since Buddhism has come to the West for it has become something that appears unattainable to ordinary people. Enlightenment is simply maturity of character; to achieve maturity requires an honest examination of our erratic emotional life and liberation from its habitual unconscious patterns that form our mistaken identities.

The first day of this two day workshop will include instruction in meditation practice; the psychology and philosophy of Zen and its application to relationships and everyday life. The second day will be a full day of sitting meditation with private interviews available to discuss personal aspects of practice.

Geoff Dawson is a Zen teacher with the Ordinary Mind Zen School founded by Charlotte Beck of the Zen Centre of San Diego. He has practiced Zen for over 20 years and has conducted meditation intensives for many years in Australia. He works as a psychologist in private practice at the Metta Clinic in Sydney and has a particular interest in Buddhism and Psychotherapy.

7 Sessions: \$80

3 THE THREE VISIONS Lama Choedak

The Three Visions are the fundamentals of Buddhist teachings on the question of 'nature and reality of things' and how and why do beings perceive the same reality differently. They are explicitly explained in the Lamdre "Path and Result" instructions by Mahasiddha Virupa in an enigmatic work called "Vajra Verses". Beings who allow themselves to be afflicted by negative karma and defilements have impure perception until they realise that they can cancel their mode of seeing. Those who are set on the path and are skilled in disassociating themselves from their defilements may alter impure perception into deep meditative experiences. Meditative experiences lead one to become liberated from karma and defilements and hence endow the pure vision of enlightenment.

Lama Choedak is the founder and director of the Tibetan Buddhist Centre and Rongton Buddhist College in Canberra. He has founded a number of Rongton Buddhist study groups across Australia. After many years of study under His Eminence Chogye Trichen Rinpoche, Lama Choedak completed a traditional three and a half years solitary meditation retreat based on Lamdre teachings of the Sakya School of Tibetan Buddhism. As a main Sakya Buddhist master, Lama Choedak conducts very popular annual Calm Abiding Meditation retreats throughout Australia.

4 Sessions: \$50

4 WRITING THE SUBLIME: THE RECORDING OF SACRED LIVES David Templeman

Writing biographies and autobiographies is a highly venerated and long-standing tradition in Tibet. A masters "outer" biography is a record of the narrative events in his or her life and contrasts with the "inner" and "secret" biographies which deal with meditative experiences and visions.

This course will look at the way Tibetans have managed to write such complex works and the problems encountered when recording a sublime life in mundane words.

David Templeman is a well respected historian with a special interest in translating Tibetan texts dealing with Buddhism in India. He has presented papers at a number of international Tibetan studies conferences, the most

recent being in the USA at the University of New York and at the Indiana Tibetan Conference in 1998. David has also published a number of works.

3 Sessions: \$36

5 MAITREYA, THE MILLENNIUM, METTA AND MEDITATION Venerable Tejadhammo Bhikku

Maitreya is the one figure, apart from the historical Buddha Sakyamuni, who can be found in all schools of Buddhism from the earliest time. He has been the object of veneration, hope, expectation and anticipation throughout Buddhist history. His influence has been felt across cultures and has led to some interesting and sometimes disastrous millenarian movements within various Buddhist schools and communities.

This course will examine some of the teachings and stories surrounding the figure of Maitreya, the future Buddha, his relationship with millenarianism and the practice of Metta or loving-kindness.

What is Metta meditation and how is it related to this important Bodhisattva?

How can we practise and develop genuine Metta at the close of the millennium?

What possible benefits might be expected from a deeper understanding of this Bodhisattva and the meditation practices surrounding this figure?

When can we expect the arrival of Maitreya?

These and many other questions will be addressed in this course. Each session will contain a practical component of instruction in meditation and an opportunity to actually engage in practice

No prior experience of meditation practice is needed. All texts will be provided.

Venerable Tejadhammo Bhikku is a Buddhist monk who apart from the usual teachings and retreat activities of a monk, works with people who are seriously ill in various hospitals, hospices and their homes in and around Sydney. Bhante has studied and taught in Thai Universities and jails. He is resident teacher for the Association of Engaged Buddhists at Sangha Lodge. Bhante considers the Dhamma to be larger than any particular school, tradition or sect, and although ordained in the Theravada tradition has also received teachings in the Mahayana and Vajrayana traditions.

8 Sessions: \$85

6 WONDERMENT Dr. Robert Miller

"From time emptiness, wondrous being."

Suzuki Roshi

After post modernism - the art of Buddhism: the re-enactment of everyday life.

1. Philosophy at the end of the millennium: the new aesthetic paradigm: wonderment, emptiness, play.

2. Buddhism: focus on emptiness, non attachment.

3. The Art of Meditation: life itself as the ultimate aesthetic object.

4. The Eightfold Path: strategies for the re-enactment of everyday life.

Lyrical lectures, cryptic handouts, playful exchanges and poems/songs,

Dr. Robert Miller teaches philosophy at RMIT in Melbourne and has been a Zen practitioner for many years. He has a particular interest in synthesising Eastern and Western approaches to philosophy.

4 Sessions: \$40

7 'IT TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE': BUDDHIST AND WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF RELATIONSHIPS AND THE SELF Christine Biddle and Kathleen Gregory

Relationships with others and our notions of our 'self' are intimately linked. As Gregory Bateson has said: 'It takes two to know one'. Understandings about this inter-dependency are articulated both in Buddhism and Western Psychology. In this workshop, a number of approaches in Western Psychology, including the work of George Kelly (Personal Construct Theory) will be explored as well as relevant Buddhist teachings. This workshop will include a number of practical exercises and meditation practices.

Christine Biddle has been a student of Buddhism for eighteen years during which time she has studied and practised in India. She currently studies under the direction of the Venerable Traleg Kyabgon Rinpoche and has completed a traditional three year retreat under the late Kalu Rinpoche. Christine is a meditation instructor at Kagyu E-Vam Buddhist Institute.

Kathleen Gregory is a Melbourne Psychologist who teaches in the Graduate Counselling and Human Service Programme at La Trobe University and works in private