



# Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

## Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

# Buddhism

Course Code	G_BATRSAL001
Credits	6
Period	P1
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Religion and Theology
Course Coordinator	dr. J. Reinke
Examiner	dr. J. Reinke
Teaching Staff	prof. dr. B. Scherer, dr. J. Reinke
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

## Course Objective

After finishing this course, the student:

- is able to historically contextualize important Buddhist events, persons, concepts and ideas;
- is able to describe and explain social and cultural patterns in these events, concepts and ideas;
- understands the mutual interrelatedness of such events, concepts and ideas;
- is able to read and explain Buddhist sutras.

## Course Content

This module is an introduction to Buddhism as religion, philosophy, soteriology, and social-historical movement. In the module, the origins, nature and spread of Buddhism will be covered.

Topics that will be discussed include: the context and the life of the Buddha, Early Buddhist teachings, community (Sangha) and Canon(s); Buddhist Philosophy; Buddhist Practices; Buddhist Material Cultures; Buddhist Ethics; Contemporary Buddhist Traditions and Lived Religion; and Buddhism beyond Modernity.

## Additional Information Teaching Methods

Seminars

## Method of Assessment

Entry prerequisites to the written assessment:

- active course attendance higher than eighty percent (=no more than two absences)
- group presentation assignments (pass/fail)

Written assignment (subject to fulfilment of prerequisite above): 100%

## Literature

- Harvey, P 2012, An Introduction to Buddhism. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. ISBN 9780521676748

[Note: Additional literature will be announced on Canvas.]

