Course Title: Daoism and Zen Buddhism

Course Description:
Mystical nature of Daoist and Zen teachings will be emphasized. The organic linkage between Daoism in China and Buddhism in India will be explored. The emergence of Zen as a quintessential representative of East Asian cultural and aesthetic values will be discussed. Units: 3.0.

Prerequisites: None

Learning Objectives:
- To understand the original teaching of Chinese Daoist masters, especially Chuang Tzu
- To explore the original Buddhist emphasis on yogic and mental discipline
- To examine the process of Buddhist adaptation to Chinese cultural values
- To study the gradual merging of Buddhist and Daoist views on the mind/heart
- To master the content of the Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch
- To appreciate the impact of Chan/Zen on Chinese and East Asian societies

Assignments:
- 2 papers (10 typed pp. each)
- Journals on reading the Chuang Tzu and the Platform Sutra
- 4 quizzes

Texts: Victor Mair, Wandering on the Way
Heinrich Dumoulin, Zen Buddhism: A History, India and China
Philip Yampolsky, tr. Platform Sutra of the Six Patriarch

Grading System:
- Journals: 30%
- Papers: 50%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Attendance & Participation: 10%

Comments:
There shall be no ringing cell phones or pagers in the classroom. (They will be kept by the instructor until end of class). There shall be no food in the classroom. Keep late arrivals to a minimum, and no leaving of the classroom during exams. There shall be no make-up exams or late papers without compelling reasons (medical or family emergency). All unexcused missed exams and papers will automatically be assigned an F grade, as will all plagiarized work.
Course Outline & Schedule:

1/26  General Introduction
1/28  The World of Thought in Ancient China
2/2   The Confucian Vision
2/4   The Vision of Lao Tzu
2/9   Introduction to the Chuang Tzu (M: xvii-liv)
2/11  Chuang Tzu Chapters 1 and 2 (M: 3-24)
2/16  Instructor furlough day
2/18  Chuang Tzu Chapters 3 and 4 (M: 25-41)
2/23  Chuang Tzu Chapters 5 and 6 (M: 42-65)
2/25  Chuang Tzu Chapters 7 and 12
3/2   Chuang Tzu Chapters 14 and 17
3/4   Chuang Tzu Chapters 18 and 22
3/9   Overall appraisal of Chuang Tzu
3/11  Sakyamuni, The Enlightened One (D: 3-12) first journal due
3/16  The Yogic Element in original Buddhism (D: 13-26) first paper due
3/18  The Principal Teachings of Mahayana (D: 27-62)
3/23  Buddhism enters China (D: 63-84)
3/29-4/4 Spring Break
3/25  Bodhidharma and his successors (D: 85-106)
4/6   Northern and Southern Schools of early Ch’an (D: 107-122; Y: 1-57)
4/8   Hui-neng, the Sixth Patriarch (D: 129-137; Y: 58-88)
4/13  Introduction to the Platform Sutra (D: 123-129; Y: 89-122)
4/15  The Platform Sutra 1-15 (Y: 123-137)
4/20  The Platform Sutra 16-25 (Y: 137-147)
4/22  The Platform Sutra 26-35 (Y: 147-159)
4/27  The Platform Sutra 36-44 (Y: 159-170)
4/29  The Platform Sutra 45-57 (Y: 170-183)
5/4   Overall Appraisal of the Platform Sutra
5/6   Ch’an Buddhism after Hui-neng (D: 155-209, 222-230) second journal due
5/11  Maturation of Ch’an and its spread to the rest of East Asia (D: 243-277)
5/13  Impact on Ch’an on Asian Art and Culture second paper due