

RELI 285: The Buddhist Tradition: Southeast Asia and Sri Lanka



Theravada Buddhism, or “the doctrine of the elders,” is the main type of Buddhism practiced in Sri Lanka and in mainland Southeast Asia (Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos). This course introduces students to the history, philosophy, precepts and practices of this important Buddhist school and through this, to key social, cultural and political realities that shape public life, personal practices and collective identities in majority Theravada Buddhist countries. Key topics to be considered include monks and monasticism, reincarnation and self-less-ness, women and gender in Buddhism, meditation/mindfulness movements, the nature of Enlightenment, and Buddhism in modernity.

Professor Lauren Leve
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TuTh
12:30PM-1:45PM

**General Education
Requirements: Fulfills
BN, CI**

