

DVPR 605 51400 (Ident. SALC 48312):

Consciousness in Indian Buddhist Philosophy
(=a seminar on *svasaṃvitti*)

Winter Term, 2007
Swift Hall 403
Thursdays, 12:00-2:50

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Office hours: Swift 401A, Mondays and Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 (or by arrangement with instructor); for appointments during regular office hours, contact instructor's secretary, Susie McGee (Swift 201)

Conception of the Course:

This seminar will consider the development, among Buddhist epistemologists, of the doctrine of *svasaṃvitti* ("apperception," "reflexive awareness," "self-reflexive cognition," etc.). Some attention will be given to comparative questions concerning Western philosophical ideas that might usefully be invoked in understanding the Buddhist doctrine; in particular, we will consider the hypothesis that *svasaṃvitti* may do something like the same conceptual work for these Buddhists that Jerry Fodor's "methodological solipsism" does for him. The seminar will, however, chiefly consist in the close reading of seminal Indian texts on the subject, beginning with *Pramāṇasamuccaya* 1.8c-10 (Dignāga's text, together with auto-commentary and the newly published Sanskrit text of Jinendrabuddhi's sub-commentary), and including passages from Dharmakīrti's *Pramāṇavārttika* and *Nyāyabindu* (with the commentaries of Manorathanandin and Dharmottara, respectively).

Course Organization and Requirements:

The seminar will proceed along two tracks. For the first hour of each session, we will discuss that week's secondary readings. Students will take turns leading that portion of the discussion (which they may choose to do by, e.g., initially presenting a brief critical review of the reading – a task which involves, of course, laying out something of the arguments). Some weeks, the secondary reading will relate closely to that week's primary texts, in some cases not. The remaining portion of our time will be dedicated to a close look at primary texts (in the original Sanskrit and/or the Tibetan translations, and in consultation with translations where available).

In addition to participating in the seminar as just described, students will be required to submit a brief (c. 5-page) critical review of some selection of readings to be determined in consultation with the instructor; and, at the end of the term, either a philosophical paper of moderate length (15-25 pages), *or* a philological paper of whatever length is necessary. **Papers will be due on March 16.**

Readings:

Most readings are available on electronic reserve (accessible through <<http://chalk.uchicago.edu>>, which requires that you be registered for the course); in

some cases (e.g., passages from Sāṃkrtyāyana's edition of the *Pramāṇavārttika*), I will distribute copies of the reading.

Tentative Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week 1 (Thursday, January 4):

Introduction to the course.

Week 2 (Thursday, January 11):

Readings: Franz Brentano, *Psychology from an Empirical Standpoint*, pp.77-154; Jerry Fodor, "Methodological Solipsism Considered as a Research Strategy in Cognitive Psychology"; Jerry Fodor, "Fodor's Guide to Mental Representation: The Intelligent Auntie's Vade-Mecum"; Frank B. Farrell, "The Disenchantment of Mind."

Week 3 (Thursday, January 18):

Readings I: Masatoshi Nagatomi, "*Mānasa-Pratyakṣa: A Conundrum in the Buddhist Pramāṇa System*"; Tom Tillemans, "Indian and Tibetan Mādhyamikas on Mānasapratyakṣa"; Eli Franco, "Once Again on Dharmakīrti's Deviation from Dignāga on *Pratyakṣābhāsa*"; Eli Franco, "Did Dignāga Accept Four Types of Perception?".
Readings II: Malvania, ed., *Dharmottarapradīpa*, pp.57-66 (with my translation).

Week 4 (Thursday, January 25):

Readings I: Eli Franco, "A New Era in the Study of Buddhist Philosophy"; Richard Hayes, "Jinendrabuddhi"; Jonardon Ganeri, "Self-Intimation, Memory and Personal Identity"; B. K. Matilal, *Perception*, pp.148-160. **Readings II:** Jinendrabuddhi, *Viśālāmalavatīnāma Pramāṇasamuccayaṭīkā* (Tohoku 4268: *yangs pa dang dri ma med pa ldan pa zhes bya ba tshad ma kun las btus pa'i 'grel bshad*) on Dignāga, *Pramāṇasamuccaya(vṛtti)* 1.8cd-10 (Steinkellner, et al, eds., pp.65-86 (begin). (Cf. Masaaki Hattori, *Dignāga, On Perception*, pp.28-31; Ernst Steinkellner, "Dignāga's Pramāṇasamuccaya, Chapter 1" <http://ikga.oeaw.ac.at/Mat/dignaga_PS_1.pdf>, pp.3-5.)

Week 5 (Thursday, February 1):

Readings I: Richard Hayes, *Dignāga on the Interpretation of Signs*, pp.133-142; Georges Dreyfus and Christian Lindtner, "The Yogācāra Philosophy of Dignāga and Dharmakīrti." **Readings II:** Jinendrabuddhi on *Pramāṇasamuccaya* 1.8cd-10, continued.

Week 6 (Thursday, February 8):

Readings I: Matthew D. MacKenzie, “The Illumination of Self-Consciousness: Approaches to Self-Awareness in the Indian and Western Traditions”; **Readings II:** Jinendrabuddhi on *Pramāṇasamuccaya* 1.8cd-10, continued.

Week 7 (Thursday, February 15):

Readings I: Paul Williams, *The Reflexive Nature of Awareness*, pp.xi-35; Dan Arnold, “Is *Svasaṃvitti* Transcendental?”; Akira Suganuma, “On Self-cognition (*svasaṃvedana*) in the *Tattvasaṃgraha*.” **Readings II:** Jinendrabuddhi on *Pramāṇasamuccaya* 1.8cd-10, continued.

Week 8 (Thursday, February 22):

Readings I: John Dunne, *Foundations of Dharmakīrti’s Philosophy* (pp.252-278); Christian Lindtner, “Marginalia to Dharmakīrti’s *Pramānaviniścaya* I-II”. **Readings II:** Dharmakīrti, *Pramāṇavārttika* 3[*pratyakṣa*].239-280 (with the commentary of Manorathanandin), = *Sāṃkrtyāyana*, ed., pp.191-202 (cf. Pandeya, ed., pp.113-20; Miyasaka, ed., pp.72-79).

Week 9 (Thursday, March 1)

Readings I: John Dunne, *Foundations of Dharmakīrti’s Philosophy* (pp.396-411); Yuichi Kajiyama, “Controversy between the *sākāra*- and *nirākāra*-vādins of the *yogācāra* school – some materials.” **Readings II:** Dharmakīrti, *Pramāṇavārttika* 3[*pratyakṣa*].320-371 (with the commentary of Manorathanandin), = *Sāṃkrtyāyana*, ed., pp.215-30 (cf. Pandeya, ed., pp.133-37; Miyasaka, ed., pp.).

Week 10 (Thursday, March 8):

Reading I: John Dunne, *Foundations of Dharmakīrti’s Philosophy* (pp.287-298, pp.374-390). **Readings II:** Dharmakīrti, *Pramāṇavārttika* 3[*pratyakṣa*].348-371 (continued); possibly with reference to Dreyfus and Lindtner (see above), pp.38-49, and Vetter, ed., *Pramānaviniścaya*, pp.78-101.

Papers due Friday, March 16