

# First Steps on the Shin Buddhist Path

March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, Saturday mornings 10-11am

Moiliili Hongwanji Temple Hall

Instructor: Rev. Bert Sumikawa

## Course Objective

The goal is to help newcomers to Jodo Shinshu (Shin) Buddhism gain a basic understanding the terminology, concepts and rituals in an informal, question & answer setting.

## Course Learning Opportunities

By the end of the course newcomers to Shin Buddhism will have had the opportunity to:

1. Be familiar with the basic terminology of Shin and General Buddhism
2. Be familiar with the connection between Shin and General Buddhism
3. Be familiar with Shinran Shonin and his story.
4. Be familiar with the connection between Shinran, Shakyamuni & Amida
5. Be familiar with the reason for and meaning of the service rituals
6. Be familiar with the history and impact of Shin Buddhism in Hawaii

## Class Pre-requisites

None. Bring your questions

## Textbook

There is no required textbook for the course. Suggested readings to further understanding will be offered.

## Class Etiquette

All questions and inquiries are welcome. There is no such thing as a “silly” question or irrelevant point of view so feel free to ask questions, comment on, or even challenge the material presented in class.

## Class Schedule

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| Class 1: | Amida Buddha, Nembutsu  |
| Class 2: | Primal Vow, Pure Land   |
| Class 3: | Rituals: Gassho, Oshoko, Nenju, Chanting, Altar                           |
| Class 4: | Shinran Shonin  |
| Class 5: | Shakyamuni Buddha, Shinran's lineage                                      |
| Class 6: | Three Treasures: importance of Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha                 |
| Class 7: | Three Marks, Four Noble Truths, Eight-fold Path, and Golden Chain of Love |
| Class 8: | History of Hongwanji Hawaii, Bishop Imamura                               |

*Class schedule is subject to change and may be adapted to suit the interest of the course participants.*