

HUAFAN  
UNIVERSITY

# INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST ART

Admissions for Overseas Chinese  
& International students





## Educational goals and characteristics

**Cultivating creative talents with the fields of Buddhist theory, cultural research and Buddhist art practice.**

Buddhist Art, particularly from India and East Asia, has spread widely around the world.

Art has played an integral role throughout the evolution and history of Buddhism. As a result, a treasure trove of resources are available both for deeper research as sources of artistic inspiration, with the potential to reach beyond the common expectations of traditional religion. At the Department of Buddhist Art, art theory, history, and practice is combined with a rich study of Buddhism itself. As such, the Buddhist Art department trains exciting new talents, in

### **Learning by Doing**

Our courses emphasize the development of both technical skills as well as artistic creativity, with an emphasis on the meditative practices of physical and mental awareness. Through our courses, students gradually develop their artistic confidence and voice, while integrating the wisdom teachings of Buddhism into their artistic practice.

### **Cultivating self-aware individuals with a passion for helping others**

In our interactive, expressive, and performance-oriented course design, we cultivate our mental awareness as well as the development of the altruistic wish to benefit others, which is one of the core teachings of Mahayana Buddhism. Our goal is not just to produce great artists and Buddhist scholars, but to develop outstanding minds and talents who can benefit society as a whole.

### **Developing creative potential through Buddhist teachings**

The representation of the Buddhist teachings through artistic expression and other cultural creations is both universal and unique. Through the use of both explicit and subtle symbolism which are rich and deep in meaning, Buddhist art is able to evoke feelings of peace, richness, auspiciousness, and harmony, with the highest quality artworks enjoying an enduring worldwide cultural influence.



# Who is suitable for studying in this Department?

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Those who are interested in the creation of and research into Buddhist art are welcome to join us.

Our department is engaged in the cultivation of creative people who are enthusiastic about the Buddhist teachings and its application to modern times. According to students' needs and inclinations, they can choose to focus their studies and cultivate their talents within the Buddhist Theory Group or Buddhist Art Group.

The Department aims to foster cutting edge and deep contributions to the fields of Buddhist art practice and theory, and draws on the world's rich heritage of Buddhist Art to expand our imaginations beyond the ordinary confines of religion.

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## **Progress Scholarship: Challenge yourself, surpass yourself**

We encourage every student to plan their own future, challenge themselves, and strive for scholarship with the goal of surpassing one's own expectations.

Any outstanding academic performance in Chinese and English proficiency, information technology, academic performance, sporting skills and public participation in extracurricular activities will be rewarded.

## **The Masters' Lecture Series in the Department of Buddhist Art at HuaFan U.**

In order to cultivate special talents within both Buddhist studies and Buddhist artistic practice, HuaFan University's Buddhist Art department is unique not only in Taiwan, but also within South-East Asia. Under the guidance and support of the board of the university, we have invited excellent scholars to give series of lectures on Buddhist art. The speakers include Prof. Huang Zhenxing, and Wang Fansen, members from Academia Sinica, Prof. Lin Baoyao, Chen Guoning, Pan Anyi, Li Yumin, Liu Guowei, Hong Muochou, Xu Yahui, Bai Shiming, and more.

# Overseas Internships and International Exchanges

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Professionalism is in line with international standards, and the vision has the same scope internationally.

With the goal of cultivating professionalism at an international standard, the vision of the university has a global scope.

At the present, four out of ten students at HuaFan University study abroad. In the future, more than half of our students will be provided with various opportunities to study abroad.





# Professional Environment and Career Exploration

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The curriculum of the undergraduate program explores Buddhist art theory and Buddhist art creation through its multiple representations. Our classes cover traditional Buddhist culture, the history of Buddhism, scripture and important texts, philosophy, and Buddhist art history. In terms of practice, we learn through painting, sculpture, ink painting, oil painting, literature, Chan art and media, and more.

The graduate program builds on the introduction of Buddhism, focusing on the study of Buddhist classics, looking deeper into the transformation of Buddhist teaching into art. Our courses aim to deepen an understanding of Buddhist theory through art, as well as fully integrating and applying to daily life. We regularly organize international academic conferences, and provide training for



## Advanced studies in related areas:

In addition to our core classes, we offer classes on religious studies, philosophy, historical research, life education, counseling for life and death, ethnic studies and sociology, ethnic art research, comparative intercultural research, sociology, and social work.

## Types of artistic creation

The artists we develop range from independent creators, to those working in the gallery industry, to art teachers.



## Administration and Practice

Possible sites for students' future careers could be religious institutions, temples, monasteries, libraries, and foundations. Graduate students can also work as museum administrators, managers and curators.



# Honeycomb Modular Courses

The whole university's curriculum is modularized, and students can freely combine modular courses. After completing the prescribed modular courses and meeting the requirement of 128 credits, they can graduate. Each honeycomb represents a course module. The course modules students take will naturally be related to each other, resulting in mutual penetration and interaction across modules, so that students can foster the abilities across various domains.

Each student takes different course modules, naturally constructing their own unique curricular structure.

Modules and the number of credits are based on the principle of 3-6 courses or 10-15 credits. Students who complete all courses in the modules can obtain a certificate of completion for that module.



**Introduction to Buddhist Art Module:** Basic Sketching, Appreciation of Buddhist Art, History of Chinese Guanshu Fine Art, Art of Calligraphy, Traditional Chinese Painting.

**Basic Buddhism Module:** Chanting, Tiantai Thought, Thirty Verses of Consciousness-Only School, Studies of Buddhist Life and Death, Introduction to Buddhist Studies, Introduction to Buddhist Chan Practice, Buddhist Ethics.

**Buddhist Art Creation Module :** Dunhuang Art, Sutra Writing and Creation, Fine Brushwork Buddhist Paintings, Chan Art Creation, Buddhist sculpture.

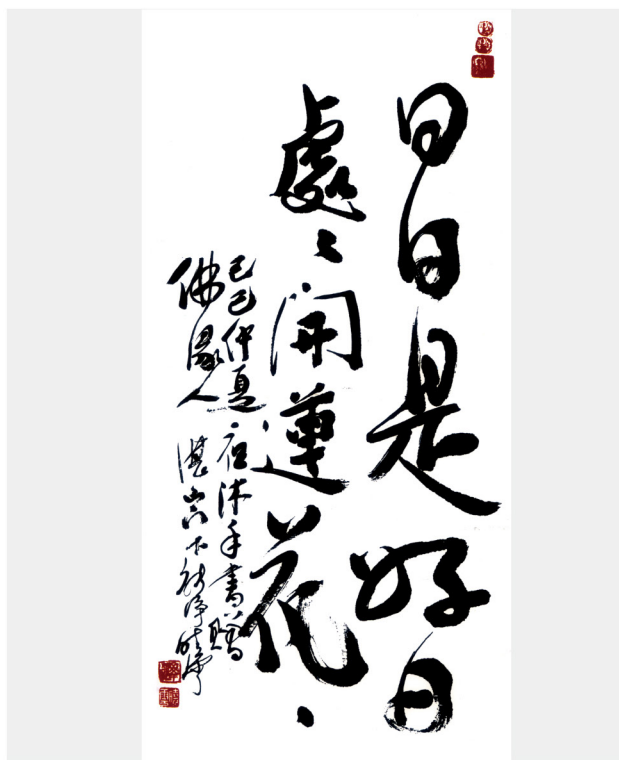
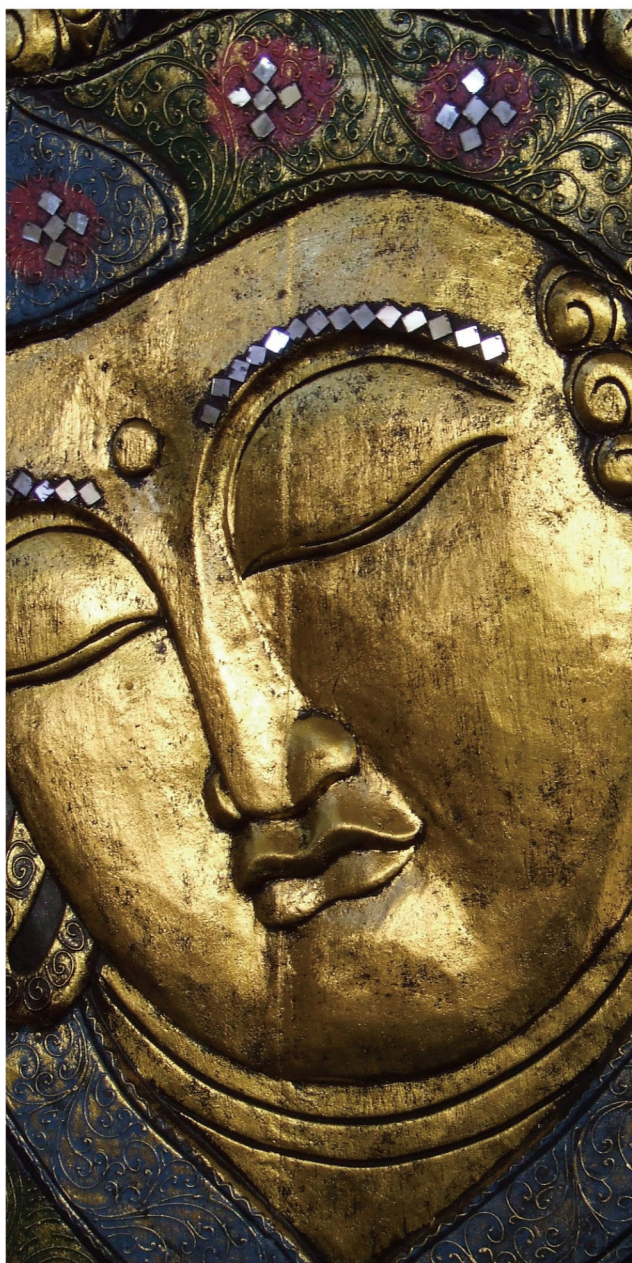
**Application of Buddhist Art Module:** Chan seal carving, Thangka painting, Buddhist cultural and creative design, Handmade book design and production, Buddhist Ritual Arrangement and Application.

**Advanced Module of Buddhism:** History of Buddhism, Thoughts of the Huayan School, Introduction to Shurangama Sutra, Contemporary Buddhist Issues.











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