

Syllabus: Mountains and Waters Sutra

Description:

This class will explore “Sansuikyo,” or the “Mountains and Waters Sutra” from Dogen’s Shobogenzo. Sansuikyo is considered “a masterpiece of poetry and insight” and offers penetrating insight to the inseparability of all beings. This is not study of a sutra about mountains and waters, but rather Dogen shares that mountains and waters are sutra.

Text: *The Mountains and Waters Sutra*, Shohaku Okumura.

Class 1: Background, Introduction, Chapter 1

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Sansuikyo
- Chapter 1: Mountains and Waters are the Expression of Old Buddhas

Class 2: Chapter 2-1

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Chapter 2-1: Blue Mountains are Constantly Walking

Class 3: Chapter 2-1 cont’d & Chapter 2-2

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Chapter 2-2: East Mountains Walking in the Water

Class 4: Chapter 3

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Chapter 3: Waters

Class 5: Chapter 4

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Chapter 4: Mountains and Waters are Dwelling Places for Sages

Class 6: Chapter 4 con’d & Chapter 5

Suggested reading prior to class:

- Chapter 5: Conclusion: Mountains are Mountains, Waters are Waters