

Academic Credit Assignments

Assignments (in addition to standard Buddhist Chaplaincy Training assignments):

- Write a total of two (2) academic papers
- Consult with a Buddhist Chaplaincy Training (BCT) faculty member mid-way through the year
- Share both academic papers with an advisor at student's educational institution

Due dates:

- January 31 Academic Paper 1 (1 copy to Gil Fronsdal, 1 copy to an academic advisor*)
 - March 30 Consultation with BCT faculty
 - May 31 Academic Paper 2 (1 copy to Gil Fronsdal, 1 copy to an academic advisor*)
-

Important Information:

- Students must propose a paper topic and their research methods to Gil Fronsdal, the faculty person who supervises and reads the papers. It is the student's responsibility to initiate this process.
- The papers must focus on some area or topic of chaplaincy that the student wants to study more deeply. This could be some aspect of Buddhism related to chaplaincy. It can also be a study of a skill or approach for chaplaincy independent of its relationship to Buddhism.
- Papers will be evaluated with an emphasis on critical, analytical, and creative thinking. Each paper must be at least 12 pages long, not including the bibliography. As these papers are for graduate level academic credit, they must cite at least four (4) peer-reviewed articles or books related to the topic. Research and information from a myriad of sources are encouraged, including field research with chaplains or others who have knowledge of the topic(s).
- As academic credit students are enrolled in graduate degree programs to develop advanced knowledge, skills, and values appropriate to their chosen discipline, the academic papers must demonstrate scholarly achievement commensurate with graduate/advanced standards of education. These include:
 - o Consistent cognitive performance in analysis, synthesis, evaluation
 - o Specialized knowledge about a discipline or field
 - o A focus on research and scholarly contributions in specialized disciplines
 - o The integration of theory and practice as well as creativity
- Students who enrolled in a degree program (i.e. Institute for Buddhist Studies Chaplaincy) will receive a grade based on their participation in the Buddhist Chaplaincy Training and the above assignments. At the end of the training, Gil Fronsdal will issue a grade for both terms of the Buddhist Chaplaincy Training program directly to the relevant education institution.

* The purpose of the student submitting papers to an academic advisor at their educational institution is neither for a grade designation nor for intellectual feedback, but rather so that he or she can understand the topics the student has researched and appreciate your scholarly achievement.