The Long Discourses of the Buddha  
(The Dīgha Nikāya)  

Spring 2018

Early each week of the class an email with a few reflection questions for the week’s reading will be sent out. During the week, students read the assigned study guide and sutta. Students then post reflections in the on-line class forum by Saturday evening and comment on other students’ postings between Sunday and the following Wednesday evening. (There are thus a few days overlap each week to allow for cross-pollination among the various themes of the course.)


Week 1: April 16, 2018 – Introduction to the Long Discourses (Dīgha Nikāya; DN)  
- Gil Fronsdal, Introduction to the Long Discourses: What is First is Important  
- Gil Fronsdal, Introduction to the Early Buddhist Scriptural Collections  
- Gil Fronsdal, Reading the Long Discourses  

Posts due Sat, April 21; comments on posts due Wed, Apr 25

Week 2: April 23 – The Brahmajāla Sutta (DN 1)  
- Gil Fronsdal, Study Guide for the Brahmajāla Sutta  
- The Supreme Net Sutta (Brahmajāla Sutta) DN 1

Posts due Sat, Apr 28; comments on posts due Wed, May 2

Week 3: April 30 – The Sāmaññaphala Sutta (DN 2)  
- Gil Fronsdal, Study Guide for the Sāmaññaphala Sutta  
- The Fruits of the Homeless Life Sutta (Sāmaññaphala Sutta) DN 2

Posts due Sat, May 5; comments on posts due Wed, May 9

Week 4: May 7 – The Poṭṭhapāda Sutta (DN 9)  
- Gil Fronsdal, Study Guide for the Poṭṭhapāda Sutta  
- The Poṭṭhapāda Sutta (DN 9)  

Posts due Sat, May 12; comments on posts due Wed, May 16