

## *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.)

**Textbook:** Walshe, Maurice. *Long Discourses of the Buddha: A Translation of the Dīgha Nikāya*, (Boston, Wisdom Publications), 1995 (ISBN 0-86171-103-3)

**Alternative translations:** Alternative translations by Thanissaro Bhikkhu can be found at <https://www.accesstoinight.org/tipitaka/dn/index.html> and alternative translations, often with extensive footnotes, by Piya Tan can be found at <http://dharmafarer.org/wordpress/sutta-titles-2/digha-nikaya>

### **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 Potṭhapāda Sutta (DN 9)**

- Gil Fronsdal, Study Guide for the *Potṭhapāda Sutta*
- *The Potṭhapāda Sutta (DN 9)*

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