

Koan Study

If you have ever read or heard a koan that left you confused, puzzled or mystified, then this class can be a starting for you to penetrate deeper into koans. For centuries koans have been an integral practice in the Mahayana Zen tradition. There exists a language in the koan literature that can be entered and investigated. This course consists of learning koan structures and analyzing their interplay in interpretation of classical koans from the Book of Serenity One Hundred Zen Dialogues and applying the knowledge and skills to one's personal life.

The course will meet one time per week for 10 weeks on Thursdays, June 6 to August 8. The meetings will be 1.5 - 2 hours long and consist of lecture, discussion, and koan analysis. We will use ZOOM.com for interactive video.

Primary Text Used: Book of Serenity One Hundred Zen Dialogues
translated by Thomas Cleary.

One required, written paper describing techniques learned and applied to one's personal life. 5 pp double spaced.