**Course Code**: BSTD 601  
**Course Title**: MA Thesis Workshop  
**Semester, Year**: Fall 2024  
**Schedule**: TBD  
**Required text(s)**:  
**Optional Readings**:  

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**Course Description:**

This course is comprised of weekly workshop-style meetings that instruct and support the writing process of the MA thesis. Group meetings will alternate with individual meetings of the students with their supervisors. (The schedule will be slightly adjusted to include more workshop meetings at the beginning of the semester and more time for individual research and writing at the end of the semester.)

The aims of the MA thesis workshop are to provide: 1) structure and accountability for the early stages of thesis research and writing, 2) guidance regarding the nuts and bolts of research in Buddhist Studies, 3) an opportunity to exchange work with fellow students, 4) practice presenting one's work, and 5) an opportunity to reflect on key methodological problems related to the research topic. Individual meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss the thesis project in greater depth.

**Assignments:**

The reading, writing and presentation assignments are geared towards generating a draft of the literature review and methodology statement (part of the introduction to the thesis) as well as a thesis chapter by the end of the semester. To this end, each student will design a reading schedule in consultation with the instructor and the thesis supervisor.

- Zotero bibliography and reading list: 10%
- Critical reflection on 2 key sources on methodology: 20%
- Draft of the methodology statement and literature review: 20%
- One thesis chapter: 50%

**Resources and Selected Readings**: TBA