

Dogen's Mountains and Waters  
Wy'East Zen Center  
Fall 2022

This Advanced Studies class is designed to be a co-exploration of Dogen's Sansuikyō ("Mountains and Waters Sutra"). It is a co-exploration in that the teacher leading the class is also a learner. Together we will investigate this fascicle by reading multiple translations, listening to talks by other teachers that examine Mountains and Waters Sutra and by engaging in personal reflection and dialoging with other learners in the class.

The purpose of this class is two-fold. 1.) To assist students in reading and becoming familiar with Dogen's work. Dogen's writings can be mysterious and daunting for Zen students to engage with. Hopefully this class with support that introduction and nurture that relationship. 2.) To encourage students to relate to and engage with metaphors and language that occurs in Zen literature.

Students will be expected to keep up with the readings and assignments. You/we will be engaging with one another regarding what we are reading and writing as well as how our learning impacts our understanding of and relationship to the fascicle.

Class will meet on Zoom in the regular Wy'East Zoom room from 2pm - 3:30pm, PDT.

Texts:

Okumura, Shohaku. *The Mountains and Waters Sūtra: A Practitioner's Guide to Dōgen's "Sansuikyō."* Somerville, MA: Wisdom Publications, 2008.

Dates and Assignments:

Date	Come to Class Having Read	Come to Class Having Read the Text and...	Misc Notes
Sept 24	Okumura: p. 23 - 76	Written down: one passage from this reading that excited you, one passage from this reading that confused you, one passage from this reading that you would share with someone if you were describing this fascicle to them. Be willing to share your passages with the group.	
Oct 1	Okumura: p. 77 - 154		Short class - class meets from 2pm-2:50pm.

Oct 8	Okumura: p. 155 - 188	Found online and listened to a dharma talk about, or referencing, the Mountains and Waters Sutra. Be willing to share what you heard/ learned with the group.	
Oct 15	Okumura: p. 189-224	Found and read another translation of Sansuikyō. Be willing to share with the group what your response to reading the new translation was. What translation was it? How did you find the language and imagery? Was it very different from Okumura's, or very similar? Would you recommend it to the group?	
Oct 22	Okumura: p. 225 - 232	Written a letter to Dogen about this fascicle. What questions would you like to ask him? What insights would you like to share with him? Be willing to read your letter to the group.	