

JODO SHINSHU MODERNITY:

Introducing Transformations in the 20th & 21st Centuries

Guest Speaker:

DR. GALEN AMSTUTZ

Adjunct Faculty, Institute of Buddhist Studies & Author, *INTERPRETING AMIDA:
HISTORY AND ORIENTALISM IN THE STUDY OF PURE LAND BUDDHISM*

Saturday, October 16, 2021

***11 AM - 1 PM (PST)** *Check your local time

“Shin Buddhism today is a very large and diffuse phenomenon which is not easy to get a handle on. With an emphasis on the way Shin looks to general scholars of Japan (i.e. outside, relatively objective observers), the lecture (after taking a nuanced position on what the relationship between Shinran and the Honganji organizations really has been) will introduce several main themes of the modern story:

- ♦ *how the encounter with the West created intellectual challenges for the tradition (at least for the leadership);*
- ♦ *how Shin through much of the 20th century was greatly influenced by Japanese imperialism, war and ethno-nationalism; and*
- ♦ *how Shin is responding to a significantly declining institutional situation today.”*

— Dr. Galen Amstutz



"Galen Amstutz, (a scholar of) Pure Land, Nembutsu, Amitabha), grew up in an Asian American neighborhood in Sacramento, California. He became interested in Buddhism after teaching English in Japan in the 1970s, studied at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, California, and qualified as a minister of the Nishi Honganji True Pure Land organization. Later, having continued his academic study with a Ph.D. in Asian Religions from Princeton, he worked for Florida State University, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University, and Ryukoku University in Japan. He is particularly interested in communications and interpretations problem related to Pure Land Buddhism and has published a book on the issue ([*INTERPRETING AMIDA*](#), 1997) among other writings."

- Oxford Bibliographies



CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series

TO REGISTER, [CLICK HERE](#). [Donations](#) are welcome and gratefully accepted

Or, register at www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education

View more seminars: [CBE Fall SOFA calendar and registration links](#)

Contact CBE at cbe@bcahq.org or (510) 809-1460

v8-25

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture