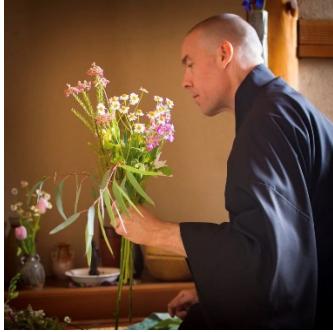


**Rev. Thomas Shōnen DeZauche, MA**



"When you do something... be completely involved in it. Devote yourself to it completely."  
- Shunryū Suzuki

I hold a Master of Arts in Religious Studies (focus in Buddhism, Hinduism, and Sanskrit) and a Bachelor of Arts with a Double Major in Music and History. From 2012-2015 I taught Core Seminars in Contemplative Education and Diversity at Naropa University in Boulder, CO. As both a graduate student, and then a teacher, at Naropa University, I developed a teaching pedagogy that focuses on the combination of personal experience, scholarly inquiry, and mindful reflection to create an integrated and genuine experience for students (whether at the University level, or adult learners). I found that when I committed to the inherent intelligence present in my students, they always brought fresh and interesting perspectives on the topics we studied together. I am excited to share my passion for religious studies, as well as diversity and inclusivity, with the community in Pitkin County. It is my hope that the courses I offer will help students to meet their world, and the people in it, with curiosity and openness.

On a personal note, I spend a part of each year in Japan, traveling and studying. I am a licensed teacher of the Japanese Tea Ceremony. I am also a former opera singer, so I still enjoy attending classical music concerts when I have the opportunity. Much of my personal time is devoted to ongoing research and educating others about traditional Japanese culture, Buddhism, and secular mindfulness. I am also an avid fan of both Star Wars and Harry Potter.