

Wear
DoDo
Carry

Protect

Train

THE BUSHIDO BRAND
In

Sign

Register

Search

Cart
(0)

May 12, 2021

The 8 Virtues of Bushido

Bushido, a relatively modern term, is translated as the Warrior's Way.

What does the 'warrior's way' really mean?

To describe the code of honor of the samurai, who were a dominant figure in the feudal era of Japan, we can unravel the 8 virtues.

Although historically the samurai were considered callous and cruel in many circumstances, their code of honor stands as a beacon for personal responsibility in an ecosystem of victimhood.

The 8 Virtues

義 *gi* - Integrity

勇 *yū* - Courage

仁 *jin* - Compassion

礼 *rei* - Respect

誠 *makoto* - Honesty

名誉 *meiyo* - Honor

忠義 *chūgi* - Duty and Loyalty

自制 *jisei* - Self Control

As these are fairly general terms, I think they can be interpreted more than one way. Below is how I interpret them into actionable principles I can apply daily.

The Rules of Bushido

1. Have **Integrity**, and hold yourself to a system of justice and responsibility. Have a moral compass and stick to it.
2. Be **Courageous**, and put others before yourself, even if it means losing.
3. Be **Compassionate**, and seek to understand others, from all walks of life and beliefs. Have empathy for everyone, even if you don't share the same ideals. Live the Golden Rule.
4. **Respect** yourself, and respect those who can do nothing for you. Do not step on the weak.

5. Be **Honest** with your word and do what you say you will do. Speak only what you truly believe.
6. Have **Honor**, and live by it. Take personal responsibility and be chivalrous. Know your identity and deliberately act by that code of honor daily.
7. Be **Loyal** to those you have committed to, be it friends, family or colleagues. In the same vein, loyalty goes both ways. Blind loyalty to someone who brings you harm is not an authentic approach.
8. **Control** yourself - mentally, emotionally and physically. Think productive thoughts. Control your emotions when others let their's fly. Know your physical power, never abuse it.

Rules of living can be sometimes simplistic when approaching areas of complexity, but simplicity means we can implement and remember them when it matters most. So, what code do you live by?



Leave a comment

Name
Email
Content

All comments are moderated before being published

Ankle Pick Take Down with Professor Giva Santana

Art of Bartitsu: The Original MMA

Our Story

Bushido is the preferred choice of educators and athletes for combat sports and martial arts equipment in North America. Founded and operated by educators, we are committed to designing and producing gear for the teacher, the enthusiast and the professional athlete.

For over 30 years, we've led the industry in designing gear for some of the most prolific athletes, gyms and coaches in the industry.

Educators First:

As part of our E1 initiative, we're committed to giving up to 20% of your purchase to your Instructor. Simply enter your Instructor and school name in your shopping cart before checking out. We'll handle the rest.



[Learn More](#)

[Help](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Size Charts](#)

[About Us](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Do not sell my personal information](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Refund policy](#)

Newsletter

Subscribe to receive updates, access to exclusive deals, and more.

© Bushido