

PHIL3172:MEDIEVAL WESTERN PHILOSOPHERS, 2011-2012

Wednesdays 18:30 - 21:15 at UCC 114 (聯合書院鄭棟材樓)

Teacher: Louis Ha,

Lectures on 7,14,21,28 September,12,19,26 October,2,9,16,23,30 November,and one visit cum dialogue with Scholastics to be arranged on a weekend before December 2011.

Course description:

Middle Ages in the West lasted for more than a millennium after the downfall of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th Century. During this period people lived under certain unity and uniformity commanded by the strong influence of Christianity and the common acceptance of the importance of faith in one's daily life. This course aims at presenting the thoughts of those centuries developed in serenity and piety together with the breakthroughs made by individual philosophers such as Boethius, Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard, Thomas Aquinas and Duns Scotus. Modern people, though live in a technologically advanced era, are quite often facing almost the same challenges of their Medieval fellow human-beings. The course intends to provide students with instances for a more general comprehension of human reality through the study on the problems of faith and understanding.

Assessment: attendance 10%; book report 20%; presentation 30%; term paper 40%.

Reading material: <http://humanum.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~lha/medieval/2011/>