

PHIL3333 Comparative Philosophy of Religion 比較宗教哲學
Course Outline

Time :	M 10:30-13:15	Location :	LHC G06
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Course overview

Philosophy of religion in its traditional sense is more or less a philosophy of Christian religion or a philosophy of religion developed by Christian thinkers. This course will instead introduce philosophy of religion with a global perspective and a comparative approach. It will explore the reasons and rationalities embedded in a variety of world religious traditions including Buddhism, Chinese Religions (Confucianism and Taoism), Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism. The main topics will be distributed in the following three areas: the human condition, ultimate realities, and religious truth.

傳統宗教哲學基本上是基督教的宗教哲學，或基督教思想家所發展的宗教哲學。本課程則從全球的視域、以比較的方法介紹宗教哲學，將探討世界諸宗教傳統中所包含的理據和理性特質。這些傳統包括佛教、中國宗教（儒教、道教）、基督教、印度教、伊斯蘭教、和猶太教。主要內容則從人類處境、終極實在、和宗教真理三方面展開。

Learning outcomes

1. Acquire knowledge of major world religions in a comparative approach.
2. Understand the major concepts and issues in philosophy of religion.
3. Be able to work independently and critically on related primary and secondary sources.
4. Explore the contemporary relevance of concepts and issues discussed.

Assessment scheme

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Tutorial and class performance	15%
Three short papers (1,500-2,000 words each, 3x15%)	45%
A final paper (3,000-5,000 words)	40%

Recommended learning resources

- *#Meister, Chad, ed. *The Philosophy of Religion Reader*. London and New York: Routledge, 2008.
Anderson, Pamela Sue and Clack, Beverley, eds. *Feminist Philosophy of Religion: Critical Readings*. London: Routledge, 2004.
Hick, John, ed. *Classical and Contemporary Readings in the Philosophy of Religion*. Third Edition. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1990.
Hick, John. *Philosophy of Religion*. Fourth Edition. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1990. 中譯：希克著，錢永祥譯：《宗教哲學》。台北：三民，1972。（據英文1963年初版譯出）；另一譯本：希克著，何光滬譯：《宗教哲學》。北京：三聯，1988。（據英文1973年再版譯出）。
Hick, John. *An interpretation of religion: human responses to the transcendent*. 2nd ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004. (約翰·希克《宗教之解釋：人類對超越者的回應》王志成譯。成都：四川人民出版社，1998.)
Kessler, Gary E. *Philosophy of Religion: Toward a Global Perspective*. Wadsworth, 1998.
Mohapatra, Amulya Ranjan. *Philosophy of Religion: An Approach to World Religions*. Sterling Pub Private Ltd; 2 edition, 1990.
Morgan, Diane. *The Best Guide to Eastern Philosophy and Religion*. Los Angeles: Renaissance Books, 2001.
#Neville, Robert Cummings, ed. *Religious Truth*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2001.
#Neville, Robert Cummings, ed. *The Human Condition*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2001.
#Neville, Robert Cummings, ed. *Ultimate Realities*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2001.

Nishitani, Keiji. *Religion and nothingness*, translated with an introduction by Jan Van Bragt. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1982.

Peterson, Michael & et al, eds. *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*. Third Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Peterson, Michael L. & Van Arragon, Raymond J. (eds.). 2004. *Contemporary Debates in Philosophy of Religion*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Phillips, Steven. *Philosophy of Religion: A Global Approach*. Wadsworth, 1995.

Quinn, Philip L. & Taliaferro, Charles, eds. *A Companion to Philosophy of Religion*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1997.

Runzo, Joseph. 2001. *Global Philosophy of Religion: A Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oneworld.

Sharma, Arvind. *The Philosophy of Religion: A Buddhist Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995. (中譯：《宗教哲學：佛教的觀點》，陳美華譯，台北：立緒文化事業，2006年)

Stewart, Melville Y. *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology of Contemporary Views*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett, 1996. (中譯：邁爾威利·斯圖沃德著，周偉馳、胡自信及吳增定譯：《當代西方宗教哲學》。北京：北京大學出版社，2001)

Stump, Eleonore & Murray, Michael J., eds. *Philosophy of Religion: the Big Questions*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1999.

Taliaferro, Charles and Griffiths, Paul J., eds. *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*. Malden: Blackwell Publishers, 2003.

Yandell, Keith E. *Philosophy of religion: a contemporary introduction*. London and New York: Routledge, 1999.

王志成：《全球宗教哲學》。北京：宗教文化出版社，2005。

胡景鍾、張慶熊主編，尹大貽等譯：《西方宗教哲學文選》。上海人民出版社，2002。

張志剛：《宗教哲學研究》。北京：中國人民大學出版社，2003。

#單純：《宗教哲學》。北京：中國社會科學出版社，2003。

單純：《當代西方宗教哲學》。北京：中國社會科學出版社，2004。

(*Ordered through university bookstore; #Reserved in the library)

Course schedule [you may want to modify the format of this part to suit your needs; e.g., a separate, detailed list for tutorials might be preferred]

- 1) Introduction: philosophy, religion, and comparative philosophy of religion
- 2) Self: human nature, sin, no-self, suffering, happiness, good life
- 3) Death: life after death, soul, rebirth, eschatology
- 4) Evil: moral bad, karma, free will, theodicy
- 5) The human condition: review section one (*Tutorial week, first short paper due*)
- 6) Theistic reality I: arguments for the existence of God
- 7) Theistic reality II: arguments against the existence of God
- 8) Non-theistic perspectives: being, Dao, nirvāṇa, emptiness, mysticism
- 9) Ultimate realities: review section two (*Tutorial week, second short paper due*)
- 10) Religious experience: meditation, prayer, sagehood and self-transformation
- 11) Faith and reason: evidence, miracles, science and religion, brain studies
- 12) Religion and pluralism: religious diversity, interreligious dialogue
- 13) Religious truth: review section three (*Tutorial week, third short paper due*)

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
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