

**UGED 2261**  
**Philosophy and Human Life 哲學與人生**

**Time: T 11:30am-1:15pm**

**Location: LSB LT2**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course investigates problems in different realms of human life from a philosophical point of view. It also demonstrates how philosophical thinking can make a distinctive contribution to our understanding of ourselves, others, and the world. Topics to be discussed include: the meaning of life, happiness, love, friendship, religion, and morality.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Reflect on the meaning of life in a philosophical way.
2. Critically analyze different ideas of happiness.
3. Understand several important aspects of human life, such as love, friendship, and religion.
4. Understand morality and moral reasoning.

**TOPICS**

1. The meaning of life
2. Love
3. Friendship
4. Religious belief
5. Happiness
6. Morality
7. Moral reasoning

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Learning activities include lectures, readings, discussions, review for test, and writings.

1. Lecture: one 2-hour session every week.
2. Reading: read the required reading before each lecture; re-read and think about the required reading after each lecture
3. Writing: mid-term paper.

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Mid-Term Paper	TBD	40%
In-Class Test	TBD	60%

## REQUIRED RESOURCES

See course schedule

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Readings</i>
8/9	Introduction	
15/9	The meaning of life	Leo Tolstoy, <i>The Death of Ivan Ilyich</i>
22/9	The meaning of life	Viktor Frankl, <i>Man's Search for Meaning</i>
29/9	Love	Erich Fromm, <i>The Art of Loving</i>
6/10	Friendship	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>
13/10	Religious belief	Ludwig Wittgenstein, "Lectures on Religious Belief"
20/10	Happiness	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>
27/10	Morality	James Rachels, <i>The Elements of Moral Philosophy</i> (4 <sup>th</sup> edition)
3/11	Morality	James Rachels, <i>The Elements of Moral Philosophy</i> (4 <sup>th</sup> edition)
10/11	Moral reasoning	Immanuel Kant, <i>Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals</i>
17/11	Moral reasoning	James Rachels, "Active and Passive Euthanasia"
24/11	Review	
1/12	Test	

## DETAILS OF COURSE WEBSITE

Reading materials, assignments, and lecture notes will be put in a Dropbox folder. The link address will be also posted on Blackboard.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR TEACHER(S)

<b>Teacher</b>	
Name:	Yingying Tang
Office location:	
Telephone:	
Email:	<a href="mailto:hannahtang@gmail.com">hannahtang@gmail.com</a>

## ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.