

**UGEA2150**  
**Chinese Culture and Its Philosophies**

**Course Outline**

**Time: Tuesday 2:30-4:15pm**

**Location: ICS LI**

**Course overview**

This course adopts an analytical and comparative approach to ancient Chinese philosophy. The course will cover the major schools of Chinese philosophy, such as Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, Legalism, Buddhism, and Neo-Confucianism. Moreover, the course will introduce the conceptual framework of Western philosophy for exploring classical Chinese thoughts.

**Learning outcomes**

1. Identify and characterize the central ideas of major schools of traditional Chinese philosophy and explain their connections to other major aspects or elements of Chinese culture.
2. Understand the historical and cultural backgrounds of Chinese philosophy.
3. Grasp the general conceptual framework of contemporary philosophy for exploring classical Chinese philosophy.
4. Illustrate how traditional philosophical thought can be brought to bear on analyzing and understanding some of the cultural and ethical issues in the contemporary world.

**Topics**

1. Confucianism (1): Kongzi
2. Confucianism (2): Mengzi
3. Confucianism (3): Xunzi
4. Daoism (1): Yangzhu
5. Daoism (2): Laozi
6. Daoism (3): Zhuangzi
7. Mohism
8. Legalism
9. Buddhism
10. Neo-Confucianism

**Learning activities**

1. Lecture: 2 hours every week.
2. Reading: 2 hours every week.
3. Assignments: paper and exam.

## Assessment scheme

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-class participation and discussion</li> </ul>	10%
Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,500-2,000 words in English or 3,000-4,000 words in Chinese, due on <b>October 30<sup>th</sup></b>.</li> </ul>	40%
Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exam will be arranged in the final class on <b>Nov. 27<sup>th</sup></b>.</li> </ul>	50%

## Required resources

馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，北京大學出版社，1985 (E-book is available in CUHK library).  
 Bryan Van Norden, *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*, Hackett Publishing, 2011.

## Course schedule

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Required readings</i>
1	Confucianism (1): Kongzi	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第四章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 2
2	Mohism	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第五章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 4
3	Daoism (1): Yang Zhu	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第六章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 5
4	<b>Public Holiday</b>	
5	Confucianism (2): Mengzi	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第七章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 6
6	Daoism (2): Laozi	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第九章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 8
7	Daoism (3): Zhuangzi	馮友蘭，〈中國哲學簡史〉，第十章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 9

8	Confucianism (3): Xunzi	馮友蘭，《中國哲學簡史》，第十三章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 10
9	Legalism	馮友蘭，《中國哲學簡史》，第十四章 Van Norden, <i>Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chapter 11
10	Buddhism	馮友蘭，《中國哲學簡史》，第二十一、二十二章
11	Neo-Confucianism (1)	馮友蘭，《中國哲學簡史》，第二十五、二十六章
12	Neo-Confucianism (2)	勞思光，『明末清初之哲學思想：黃宗羲、王夫之』
13	In-class Exam	

### Details of course website

Reading materials, lecture notes, and assignments will be put in a Dropbox folder (the link to this folder is posted on Blackboard).

### Contact details for teacher(s)

<b>Teacher</b>	
Name:	Zhong Lei
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### 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.