

**UGEA 2160C – Mainstream Chinese Philosophy
Term 2, 2020**

The language of instruction and all course materials is English

Time: Wed 10:30-13:15

Location: online

Course Overview

This course introduces you to the philosophical thought of ancient and early-medieval China. Specifically, we will discuss the schools of Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, Legalism, Buddhism, and Neo-Confucianism. By surveying the key arguments of these schools, the goal of this course is to pique your interest in Chinese philosophy and to encourage you to attend specialized, major courses in the future

Learning Outcomes

1. Become familiar with philosophical arguments of early Chinese philosophers.
2. Broaden your historical understanding of Chinese philosophy.
3. Appreciate the role Chinese philosophy still plays in modern society.

Topics

See lecture schedule below

Learning Activities

1. Read and give thought to the assigned readings.
2. Develop the skills mentioned above in the Learning Outcomes.
3. Attend lectures and engage your fellow classmates in discussion on the material presented.

Assessment Scheme

Task	Description	Mode of Teaching	Weight
Attendance / Participation	-	online	10%
Reading Summary	100-word summary 5 in total, 6 points each	online	30%
Exam	3 hours	take home	60%

Reading Summaries:

You are asked to write a short summary (100 words) of five assigned readings. You should not copy-and-paste the content of the text but summarize its key points in your own words. Each summary is to be emailed to me on the days given in the lecture schedule below. The subject of your email must be written: [Your Full Name_UGEA2160_SumX](#) (where X is the summary number). Each summary is worth 6 points, for a total of 30 points of your final grade.

Exam:

We will have a three-hour exam covering the entire course (all lectures and readings) and you will be asked to write three short essays of approximately 750 words each (you will have a choice of questions and I will provide example questions ahead of time). The exam will be held during the official examination period. Complete instructions will be issued in our final lecture. Each answer will be worth 20 points, for a total of 60 points of your final grade. Exams will not be returned.

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Course Schedule

Lecture	Topic	Readings	Work Due
1 (Jan 13)	Introduction	Feng vol.1, ch.1	
2	Beginnings	Feng vol.1, ch.3	
3	Confucianism: Confucius	Feng vol.1, ch.4	
4	Mohism: Mozi	Feng vol.1, ch.5	reading summary 1
5	Confucianism: Mencius	Feng vol.1, ch.6	
Lunar New Year (Feb 11-17)			
6	Daoism: Laozi	Feng vol.1, ch.8	reading summary 2
7	Daoism: Zhuangzi	Feng vol.1, ch.10	
8	Confucianism: Xunzi	Feng vol.1, ch.12	reading summary 3
9	Legalism: Hanfeizi	Feng vol.1, ch.13	
10	Divination: Book of Changes	Feng vol.1, ch.15	reading summary 4
Reading Week (March 29-April 1)			
11	Buddhism: Huayan	Feng vol.2, ch.8	reading summary 5
12	Neo-Confucianism: Zhuxi	Feng vol.2, ch.13	
13 (Apr 21)	Neo-Confucianism: Wang Fuzhi	Liu, ch.7	

Readings:

The texts for this course will be posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for downloading and reading them before lecture. The course schedule above shows which texts apply for each lecture.

[1]. Feng, Youlan. 1952-1953. *A History of Chinese Philosophy*. Translated by Derk Bodde.

[2]. Liu, Jeeliu. 2018. *Neo-Confucianism: Metaphysics, Mind and Morality*.

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.

Contact Information

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Hours	Appointment by email