PHIL3140 - Non-European Philosophies
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. Yin Gao
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Consultation hours: by arrangement

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Semester 2 - 2008</th>
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<td>Unit Weighting</td>
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Teaching Methods
Lecture
Tutorial

Brief Course Description
Examines philosophies developed by cultures that are not rooted in Western Europe. Examples of philosophies that may be covered in this course include Chinese, Indian, Southeast Asian, Native American, Aboriginal Australian, African, Middle Eastern.

Contact Hours
Tutorial for 1 Hour per Week for 13 Weeks
Lecture for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts:
Primary readings:
Secondary Readings:


There are many acceptable translations of these texts published. The best translations for this course and the secondary reading are chosen as texts list above. These books can be obtained through online book stores for a discount price. All these textbooks are available at the Auchmuty Library on the short loan. There are also many translations available on the net (see the last page).

Course Objectives
(1) Impart to students familiarity with, and knowledge of, the main issues addressed and approaches taken by philosophers in another major culture or related group of cultures.

(2) Impart to students critical skills to deal with these issues and employ these approaches in their assessment of their own culture and societal life, and in thinking about their own personal lives.

(3) Develop high level written and oral skills in presenting issues concerning philosophies of non-European cultures.

(4) Develop a capacity to appreciate how people of other cultures approach ways of living and evaluating life situations.

Course Content
Specific content will vary from year to year. The course may focus on one particular non-European philosophy, say for instance Chinese, or it may survey several under selected themes. The main assigned reading will be translations of primary materials supplemented by secondary interpretation. For instance, a segment covering ancient Chinese philosophy would use The Analects of Confucius (tr. Ames and Rosemont), the Tao Te Ching (tr. MacDonald) and The book of Chuang Tzu, (tr. Palmer & Breuilly) as primary texts, supplementing them with such contemporary texts as Confucius: The secular as sacred by H. Fingarette, Disputers of the Tao: philosophical argument in ancient China by A. C. Graham, Thinking through Confucius by D. L. Hall and R. T. Ames. The lectures and discussions will focus on interpreting the texts, examining the philosophic issues, discussing how cultural concerns are reflected in the philosophy, discussing non-western philosophical terminology and comparing the non-european ideas to those of western philosophy.

Assessment Items

<table>
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<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Final Essay (2,250 words), 55%</th>
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<td>The essay (due week 14) will be a research paper on some issue raised in the course; it is designed to assess the student's grasp of course material, as well as their ability to do independent research.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Examination: Take Home</th>
<th>Take-Home Exam (1,250 words), 30%</th>
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<td>The exam (due week 7) will require the student to explain the central concepts of the philosophies studied. Some research will be required, but it is expected that assigned reading will form the bulk of the material.</td>
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<th>Presentations - Group</th>
<th>Group Presentation, (30 minutes), 15%</th>
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<td>This assignment will assess how well students are coming to grips with the basic issues and concepts of the course. The tutorial/class presentation involves continual assessment and feedback on individual student ability to properly engage the subject matter and requires the students, in small</td>
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groups, to orally present an analysis of one passage from the assigned texts.

Assumed Knowledge
At least 10 units of PHIL courses at 1000 level, or 40 units of any courses at any level.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
PHIL3140
NON-EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHIES
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2008
Lecture Tuesday 15:00 - 16:00 [MCG28C]
and Tutorial Tuesday 16:00 - 17:00 [MCG25A]

Plagiarism
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

· copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
· using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
· working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

· Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
· Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
· Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items
Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Marks and Grades Released During Term
All marks and grades released during the term, are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School on the recommendation of the School Assessment body.
Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- **Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- **Requests for Rescheduling Exams** must be received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. In the first instance, students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

Changing your Enrolment

The census dates below are the last dates to withdraw without academic penalty. For onshore students, withdrawal on or before the census date means no financial penalty.

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2008
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2008
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2008
For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2008
For Trimester 3 courses: 22 September 2008
For Trimester 1 Singapore courses: 3 February 2008
For Trimester 2 Singapore courses: 25 May 2008
Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students

https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

Faculty Information

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

Callaghan campus
- Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building
- Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of campus

City Precinct
- City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct

Ourimbah campus
- Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building

For Port Macquarie students, contact your program officer or EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au, phone 4921 5000

For Singapore students, your first point of contact is your PSB Program Executive

Faculty websites

Faculty of Business and Law

Faculty of Education and Arts
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/

Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/

Faculty of Health
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/

Faculty of Science and Information Technology
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/

Contact details

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000  
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au  

Ourimbah  
Phone: 02 4348 4030  
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au  

The Dean of Students  
Resolution Precinct  
Phone: 02 4921 5806  
Fax: 02 4921 7151  
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au  

Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)  
Phone: 02 4348 4123  
Fax: 02 4348 4145  
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au  

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:  

Alteration of this Course Outline  
No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.  

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards  

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards  

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards  

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS  
The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.  

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.  

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au  

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.  

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability  

School of Humanities and Social Science
Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students
Assignments

Assignment One:
Take-home exam 35% 1500 words Due: 2 Sept.

Define and Discuss each of the following concepts:

Li  ❇  Rituals
Ren  ❇  Humaneness
Yi  ❇  Righteousness
Dao  ❇  The Way
De  ❇  Virtue/potency
Ziran  ❇  Nature/natural

Provide Passages from the Analects and/or Dao De Jing illustrating your discussion (200-300 words for each concepts)

Assignment Two:
Presentation 20% 30 Minutes Throughout the term
Each student prepares a half hour presentation on one of the following passages and other relevant passages of one’s choice (A-E are from Analects, F-G from Dao De Jing, H-I from Zhuang Zi)

A. Book 1.1:
The Master said: To learn something and at times to practice it—surely that is a pleasure? To have friends coming from distant place—surely that is delightful? But not to be resentful at other’s failure to appreciate on—surely that is to be a true gentleman? (Dawson, p.3)

Book 2.4:
The Master said: At fifteen, I set my heart on learning, at thirty I was established, at forty I have no perplexity, at fifty I understood the decrees of Heaven, at sixty my ear was in accord, and at seventy I followed what my heart desired but did not transgress what was right. (Dawson, p. 7)

B. Book 2.1:
The Master said: Governing with excellence (de ❇) can be compared to being the North Star: the North Star dwells in its place and the multitude of stars pay it tribute. (Ames, p.76)

Book 13.2:
Zilu said: If the Lord of Wei were to entrust you with the government of the country, what would be your first initiative? The Master said: It would certainly be to rectify the names. Zilu said: really? Isn’t this a little farfetched? What is this rectification for? The Master said: How boorish can you get? Where upon a gentleman is incompetent, thereupon he should remain silent. If the names are not correct, language is without an object. When language is without an object, no affair can be effected. When no affair can be effected, rites and music wither. When rites and music wither, punishments and penalties miss their target. When punishments and penalties miss their target, the people do not know where they stand. Therefore, whatever a gentleman conceives of, he must be able to say; and whatever he says, he must be able to do. In the matter of language, a gentleman leaves nothing to chance (Leys, p.60-1)

C. Book 2.5:
Meng Yizi asked about filial conduct (xiao ❇). The Master replied: Do not act contrary. Fan Chi was driving the Master’s chariot, and the Master informed him further: Meng Yizi asked me about filial conduct, and I replied: Do not act contrary. Fan Chi asked, What did you mean by that? The Master replied: While they are living, serve them according to the observances of ritual propriety; when they are dead, bury them and sacrifices to them according to the observances of ritual propriety. (Ames, p. 77)

D. Book 6.7:
The Master said: As far as Hui is concerned, his mind for three months does not stray from humaneness; but as for the rest of them, they attain it occasionally, but that is all. (Dawson, pl 20)

Book 6.11:
The Master said: How admirable was Hui! A handful of rive to eat, a gourd of water for drink, a hovel for your shelter—no one would endure such misery, yet Hui’s joy remained unaltered. How admirable was Hui! (Leys, p. 25-6).

E. Book 12.1
Yan Hui inquired about authoritative conduct (ren 仁). The Master replied: Through self-discipline and observing ritual propriety (li 禮) one becomes authoritative in one’s conduct. If for the space of a day one were able to accomplish this, the whole empire would defer to this authoritative model. Becoming authoritative in one’s conducts is self-originating—how could it originate with others.
Yan Hui said, Could I ask what becoming authoritative entails? The Master replied, Do not look at anything that violate the observance of ritual propriety; do not listen to anything that violates the observance of ritual propriety; do not speak about anything that violates the observance of ritual propriety; do not do anything that violates the observance of ritual propriety.
Though I am not clever, said Yan Hui, Allow me to act on what you have said.

F. Chapter 4&14 from Dao De Jing (what is the Dao like).
G. Chapter 8&27 from Dao De Jing (what is Goodness/Excellence like).
H. The Story of Cook Ding Carving up an Ox from Chapter 3, Zhuang Zi,
I. The Autumn Water, Chapter 17 from Zhuang Zi,

Assignment Three
Final Essay 45% 2500words Due: 4 Nov.

Write a 2500-3000 words commentary essay on the of the following subjects:

1. Passages on Li 禮 from the Analects.
2. Passages on Zheng 靈 from the Analects
3. Chapters 8, 11, 28, 38, 43, 60 and 63 from Dao De Jing.
4. Book 1 from Zhuang Zi.

Give a detailed account of the concepts and ideas discussed in the selected passages, analyze them, and make a comparison with the corresponding concepts or ideas in Western thinking (as appropriate).

OR

5. Write an essay on any topic arising from the texts in this class. (The topic MUST BE APPROVED IN WRITING beforehand by the Lecturer of the course).
## Timetable

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<th>Week Commencing</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
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<td>22/07/2008</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>29/07/2008</td>
<td>Confucius and Confucianism</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>05/08/2008</td>
<td>Ancestor worship and Li</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>12/08/2008</td>
<td>The Confucian Gentlemen</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>19/08/2008</td>
<td>The concept of governing</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>26/08/2008</td>
<td>Discussion on the final Essay</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>02/09/2008</td>
<td>Dao De Jing and The Daoist philosophy</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>09/09/2008</td>
<td>Dao and Wu-wei</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>16/09/2008</td>
<td>The Dao and the highest goodness</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>23/09/2008</td>
<td>Zhuangzi, the Book and the person</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/09/2008</td>
<td>Semester Recess: Monday 29 September to Friday 10 October 2008</td>
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<td>06/10/2008</td>
<td>Semester Recess:</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>14/10/2008</td>
<td>The state of Freedom</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>21/10/2008</td>
<td>Freedom, Knowledge and Action in Zhuangzi</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>28/10/2008</td>
<td>Conclusion: Being in Harmony with the World</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>03/11/2008</td>
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<td>Examination period: Monday 10 November to Friday 28 November 2008</td>
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