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## Expressivist Confucianism: Objectivity and Early Confucian Metaethics

**Date : 04 March 2024 (Monday)**

**Time : 16:45 - 18:15**

**Venue : LKK207 & Zoom Seminar**



*Here is the link to the seminar – <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91923328554>*

Several recent interpretive controversies over Confucian metaethics concern the nature of moral properties. Specifically, they concern whether the Confucians Mengzi and Xunzi believed moral properties are objective and mind-independent or constructed, subjective, or otherwise mind-dependent. In this paper, I argue against the cognitivist framework assumed in this debate and offer instead a noncognitivist, expressivist framework for understanding early Confucian morality. The expressivist framework dissolves the interpretive tension between different accounts of moral endorsement and rejection in early Confucian ethics instead of a cognitivist, representational framework of moral beliefs and metaphysically substantive moral properties. It also locates new metaethical ambiguities within early Confucian ethics that better reflect the concerns of the early Confucians.

**All are welcome**

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