Lingnan University  
Department of Philosophy – MA in Practical Philosophy Programme

Course Title: Philosophy of Emotion  
Course Code: PHI525  
Recommended Study Year: -  
No. of Credits/Term: 3  
Mode of Tuition: Lecture and Tutorial  
Class Contact Hours: 2 hours lecture per week  
1 hour tutorial per week  
Category in Major Programme: Traditions and Practical Wisdom  
Prerequisite(s): -  
Co-requisite(s): -  
Exclusion(s): -  
Exemption Requirement(s): -

Brief Course Description
Emotions have always played a part in human life. Philosophers have often disagreed over the emotions’ nature and influence on human agency. Are emotions intelligible, or are they simply physical reactions? Are they merely feelings that impede making rational judgments, or do they play a vital or even rational role in our judgments and actions? Both sides in this debate have a long history in philosophy, and studies in modern cognitive science, psychology, and neurology have renewed these discussions. This course will look closely at different theories and conceptions of emotion in which philosophers attempt to seek answers to the riddle of the role of emotions.

Aims
1. To study ancient, modern, and contemporary views of the nature, role, and mechanism of emotions.
2. To explore the descriptive and normative dimensions of emotions.
3. To investigate the relationship between emotion and other faculties of human capability.

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the course, student will:
Students will familiarize different conceptions of emotion of different disciplines and perspectives after taking this course. Through apprehending emotions, students are able to understand more about their emotional life, to become less disturbed and perplexed individuals.

Indicative Content
1. Introduction to two conceptions of emotion
2. Non-cognitivism: basic ideas and its history
3. Cognitivism: basic ideas and its history
4. What emotions are: the underlying principles of the distinction of simple and complex emotions, and their ground.
5. The place of emotion in human agency (1): emotion and rationality
6. The place of emotion in human agency (2): emotion and motivation in action
7. Implications and applications of theories of emotion (1): legal punishment, moral judgment, and rational choice making
8. Implications and applications of theories of emotion (2): emotional education

Teaching Method
Lecturing and seminar discussions (& reading reports)

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
Student will write several essays
Students should demonstrate their levels of the above-mentioned understanding in their term papers
as well as in tutorial presentations and discussions.

**Assessment**

100% Continues Assessment

**Required Readings**


**Supplementary Readings**


**Chinese Readings**

郭碧珊：《為情所困：走出情緒病深淵》（香港：經濟日報出版社，2005年）

李誠：《談情說愛：漫談情緒病》（香港：天健出版社，2004年）

李中聲：《情緒輔導學》（香港：專業效能管理出版社，2002年）

陳雪麗：《情感教育：儒佛情緒觀的現代應用》（台北：五南圖書出版有限公司，2000年）

葛瑞·麥凱、東·狄克梅著，賴惠辛譯：《做情緒的主人》（台北：雅音出版社，1996年）

錢穆：《人生十論》（台北：聯經出版事業公司，1998年）
張志平：《情感的本質與意義：舍勒的情感現象學論》(上海：上海人民出版社，2006年)

迪倫·伊文斯著，張勤譯：《情感，來自演化：看科學家如何發現情感的秘密》(台北：左岸文化，2005年)

費思·拉爾斯頓著，曹珍芬譯：《情感：潛在的動力》(上海：上海人民出版社，1999年)

謝勒著，陳仁華譯：《情感現象學》(台北：遠流，1991年)

B·J·瓦茲沃思著，徐夢秋、沈明明譯：《皮亞杰的認知和情感發展理論》(福州：廈門大學出版社，1989年)