

Lingnan University
Department of Philosophy

Course Title	: History of Chinese Philosophy: From Pre-Qin to Han
Course Code	: PHI2112
Recommended Study Year	: 2 nd Year
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Lecture and tutorial
Class Contact Hours	: 2 hours Lecture/week; 1 hour Tutorial/week
Category in Major Programme	: Foundation
Prerequisite(s)	: N/A
Co-requisite(s)	: N/A
Restriction(s)	: (a) Students are not allowed to take PHI1001 Introduction to Chinese Thought after successful completion of PHI2112 History of Chinese Philosophy: From Pre-Qin to Han. (b) Students are not allowed to take PHI1001 Introduction to Chinese Thought and PHI2112 History of Chinese Philosophy: From Pre-Qin to Han in the same term.
Exemption Requirement(s)	: N/A

Brief Course Description

This course covers the period in Chinese philosophy from Pre-Qin to the Han dynasty. It concentrates on the distinctive features of Chinese philosophy, including the main concerns, themes and approaches of different schools of thought. Equal weight will be given to the philosophy and the history component: the meaning, implications, significance of philosophical problems and their solutions as well as the development of these problems and conceptions will be under scrutiny. The interaction between schools of thought will also be examined. Students will be supervised in their study of texts so as to understand the original context from which the problems and concepts spring.

Aims

The course aims to enable students:

1. To acquire an understanding of the problems and conceptions in Chinese philosophy.
2. To be cognizant of the development within schools of thought and their interaction.
3. To be aware of the main concerns and distinctive approaches of Chinese philosophy.
4. To attain a training in the interpretation of key concepts in the text.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students are expected to:

1. be familiar with the basic concepts and distinctive modes of thought in pre-Qin to Han Chinese philosophy.
2. be able to compare different schools of thought in pre-Qin to Han Chinese philosophy.
3. be able to read ancient Chinese philosophical texts critically.
4. be able to reflect on general philosophical issues and present one's thoughts clearly and cogently.

Indicative Content

1. Introduction: The distinctive features of Chinese philosophy
2. Pre-Qin Period
 - a. The rise of humanistic spirit
 - b. Confucianism

- i. Doctrine of Confucius
 - ii. Doctrine of Mencius
 - iii. Doctrine of Hsun Tzu
 - c. Taoism
 - i. Doctrine of Lao Tzu
 - ii. Doctrine of Chuang Tzu
 - d. Mohism
 - e. Legalism
 - f. Dialectician
3. The philosophy of Han Dynasty

Teaching Method

Lecture and tutorial

Assessment and Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Tutorial class performance (15%) and report (20%): Class Performance mainly corresponding to LO1, LO3; Report mainly corresponding to LO1, LO3 and LO4.
Students are required to actively participate in each tutorial lesson. In addition, each student shall give a presentation. Topics and reading materials will be assigned by the teacher. Students shall submit an outline before presentation. This assessment focuses on clarity and cogency of expression, as well as the basic understanding of key themes. At the end of course students are required to submit a short essay of 2, 500 – 3, 000 words (Chinese) / 2, 000 – 2, 500 words (English), the content of which must be corresponding to the tutorial presentation. This assessment focuses on summarizing and critical thinking skills.
2. Mid-term Exam (25%): part A mainly corresponding to LO1, LO2, LO3; part B mainly corresponding to LO2, LO3, LO4.
Students are required to take a sit-in exam at the middle of course. The exam paper will be divided into two parts, with part A being multiple choices and part B being short essay questions. Part A focuses on the understanding of basic concepts and attitudes of different intellectual traditions, part B focuses on expression skills.
3. Final Exam (40%): part A mainly corresponding to LO1, LO2, LO3; part B mainly corresponding to LO2, LO3, LO4.
Students are required to take a sit-in exam at the end of course. The format will be close to that of mid-term exam.

Readings

Overview of Pre-Qin and Han philosophy :

牟宗三：《中國哲學十九講》，台灣：學生書局，1983。

李弘祺：《學以為己——傳統中國的教育》，香港：中文大學出版社，2012。

胡適：《中國哲學史大綱》，上海：上海古籍出版社，1997。

唐君毅：《中國哲學原論——原道篇》（卷一），台北：學生書局，1986。

徐復觀：《中國人性論史——先秦篇》，台北：台灣商務印書館，1969。

馮友蘭：《中國哲學史》（上冊），北京：中華書局，1947。

勞思光：《新編中國哲學史》（第一冊），台北：三民書局，1981。

Graham, A. C. *Disputers of the Tao*. La Salle: Open Court, 1989.

Hansen, Chad. *A Daoist Theory of Chinese Thought*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Lai, Karyn. *An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Munro, Donald J. *The Concept of Man in Early China*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1969.

Schwartz, Benjamin I. *The World of Thought in Ancient China*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard

University Press, 1985.

Materials about Confucianism :

- Cua, Antonio S. *Ethical Argumentation: A Study in Hsun Tzu's Moral Epistemology*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1985.
- Fingarette, Herbert. *Confucius: The Secular as Sacred*. New York: Harper & Row, 1972.
- Kline, T. C. III and Ivanhoe, Philip J. ed. *Virtue, Nature and Moral Agency in the Xunzi*. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2000.
- Munro, Donald J. *A Chinese Ethics for the New Century*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2005.
- Nivison, David S. *The Ways of Confucianism: Investigations in Chinese Philosophy*. La Salle: Open Court, 1996.
- Shun, Kwong-loi. *Mencius and Early Chinese Thought*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997.
- Van Norden, Bryan W. *Virtue Ethics and Consequentialism in Early Chinese Philosophy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Materials about Daoism :

- 王博：《莊子哲學》，北京：北京大學出版社，2004。
- 陳鼓應：《老莊新論》修訂版，台北：五南圖書，2007。
- 劉笑敢：《老子古今》，北京：中國社會科學出版社，2006。
- Cook, Scott ed. *Hiding the World in the World: Uneven Discourses on the Zhuangzi*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2003.
- Kjellberg, Paul and Ivanhoe, Philip J. ed. *Essays on Skepticism, Relativism and Ethics in the Zhuangzi*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1996.
- Moeller, Hans-Georg. *The Philosophy of the Daodejing*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2006.
- _____. *Daoism Explained*. Peru, Illinois: Open Court Publishing Company, 2006.

Materials about Mohism :

- 吳進安：《墨家哲學》，台北：五南圖書，2003。
- Fraser, Chris. *The Philosophy of the Mòzi: The First Consequentialists*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2016.
- Graham, A. C. *Later Mohists Logic, Ethics and Science*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2003.

Other Materials :

- 徐復觀：《兩漢思想史》，上海：華東師範大學出版社，2001。
- Creel, Herrlee G. *Shen Pu-hai: A Chinese Political Philosopher of the Fourth Century B. C.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974.
- Major, John S. *The Huainanzi: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Government in Early Han China*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.
- Vankeerberghen, Griet. *The Huainanzi and Liu An's Claim to Moral Authority*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2001.

Important Notes

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations

Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.

- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>