

Indian and Chinese Philosophy Syllabus

Instructor Information

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Department of Philosophy

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Course Information

Class ID: PHIL 3210
Section: 1001-LEC (11377)
Time: TR 9:30-10:45
Location: Business Administration Annex 1009

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to classical Indian and Chinese philosophy, with a focus on the *Upanishads*, early Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Zen Buddhism. The course is structured around the close reading of primary texts, including the *Upanishads*, the *Analects* of Confucius, the *Daodejing*, the *Zhuangzi*, and selected Zen Buddhist texts.

Required Texts

The following texts are all required for the course. ***You must purchase the editions of the translated works listed below.*** These works have been carefully selected for the quality of the translation as well as for the commentaries and other critical apparatus.

1. *Upanisads*. Patrick Olivelle, trans. Oxford University Press, 1996. [U]
2. Rupert Gettin. *The Foundations of Buddhism*. Oxford University Press, 1998. [B]
3. Confucius. *The Essential Analects*. Edward Slingerland, trans. Hackett, 2006. [C]
4. *The Daodejing of Laozi*. Philip J. Ivanhoe, trans. Hackett, 2003. [L]
5. *Zhuangzi*. Brook Ziporyn, trans. Hackett, 2009. [Z]
6. Stephen Addiss, Stanley Lomardo, and Judith Roitman, eds. *Zen Sourcebook: Traditional Documents from China, Korea, and Japan*. Hackett, 2008. [ZS]

Course Policies

Attendance

I take attendance at the beginning of every class in order to learn everyone's name and to keep a record. You do not earn points just for attending. However, attendance can have a large effect on your grade, since the homework assignments may only be turned in when class meets.

Required Readings

Assigned readings are both from the required texts listed above and from handouts posted to the course website. ***Readings assigned for a given day must be completed before class meets that day.*** In addition, you should bring the book we are currently reading every time you come to

class. We will often discuss particular passages from the reading, and you need to be able to follow along.

Late Work Policy

Late homework is not accepted, even if you have a legitimate excuse. However, there are two extra credit homework assignments towards the end of the semester.

Term paper assignments must be turned in as hard copies, with the pages stapled together; they may not be turned in via email. If you are unable to make it to class for some reason, you may also turn in a hard copy of the term paper assignment either to my department mailbox or slipped under my office door. You may hand in the assignment before the day that it is due, but otherwise I must receive it by the time class ends on the day that it is due. Late term paper assignments receive a *-5% penalty per day* turned in late.

You may schedule a make-up for a mid-term exam, but only if you inform me *at least 24 hours in advance*. You must be able to take the final exam at the dedicated time during exam week. Please arrange your travel plans accordingly. You will not be able to make up the final exam even if you make travel plans which conflict with the final exam schedule.

Note on Plagiarism

All written work presented as your own must be your own.

A written work is plagiarized if it contains the words of another writer without attribution. Plagiarized work will receive a grade of “F,” and will be reported to the administration as a violation of the BGSU Code of Academic Conduct.

Philosophy Department Learning Outcomes

At the completion of baccalaureate degree studies in Philosophy, students will be able to:

1. Read and comprehend sophisticated philosophical texts;
2. Critically evaluate philosophical arguments;
3. Construct and defend philosophical arguments in well-organized, clear, and concise prose;
4. Demonstrate mastery of basic philosophical concepts and methods in both oral and written contexts;
5. Apply critical thinking and argument-evaluation skills to those philosophical issues and arguments that present themselves in everyday life;
6. Engage in rational, civil discourse about complex and emotionally laden topics in a manner that is respectful of others.

Summary of Graded Coursework

Homework Assignments (10 @ 20 Points Each = 200 Points)

Each homework assignment consists of one or more questions related to one of the readings. Towards the end of the semester, there will also be two extra credit homework assignments.

Term Paper Assignments (400 Points)

The term paper is a multi-phase project in which you raise and address an issue relating to classical Indian or Chinese philosophy. The issue must relate to at least one of the assigned readings of the course, and the paper must include an original thesis and argumentation. The research paper assignment is broken up into four parts: **proposal** (50 points), **first draft** (50 points), **second draft** (100 points), and **final draft** (200 points). You may only turn in a later part for the research paper if you have turned in and received feedback on all of the preceding parts.

Mid-Term Exams (2 @ 100 Points Each = 200 Points)

There are two mid-term exams. The first exam is on the Upanishads and Buddhism, and the second is on Confucianism and Daoism.

Final Exam (200 Points)

The final exam is *cumulative*, with a special focus on Zen Buddhism. The final exam will be given at the scheduled time during finals week.

Summary of Graded Coursework

Grading Scale

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points Value</u>	<u>Points Earned</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
Homework	200 (10 @ 20 Points Each)	0-599	F
Term Paper	400	600-699	D
Mid-Term Exams	200 (2 x 100 Points Each)	700-799	C
Final Exam	200	800-899	B
	-----	900-1,000	A
Total:	1,000		

Course Schedule

Subject to Revision, Deletion, & Addition

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
1/8	Introduction to Philosophy		
1/10	Introduction to Indian Philosophy Brhadaranyaka	“Vedas and Upanishads” handout U 34-72	Homework 1
1/15	Changogya, Taittiriya, and Aitareya	U 148-156; 167-199	
1/17	Kausitaki, Kena, and Katha	U 220-247	Homework 2
1/22	Isa and Svetasvatara	U 248-265	
1/24	Mundaka, Prasna, and Mandukya	“Mimamsa and Vedanta” handout U 266-290	Homework 3
1/29	The Buddha and Scriptures	B 1-58	
1/31	The Four Noble Truths	B 59-84 “Pali Canon” handout	Homework 4
2/5	Cosmology and No Self	B 112-162	
2/7	Sangha and Path	B 85-111; 163-201	Homework 5
2/12	Abhidharma and Mahayana	B 202-252	Proposal
2/14	Review		
2/19	Mid-Term Exam 1		
2/21	Intro to Chinese Philosophy	C 1-51	
2/26	Confucius Analects	C 52-110	Homework 6
2/28	Confucius Analects	C 111-190	
3/5	SPRING RECESS		
3/7	SPRING RECESS		
3/12	Confucius Analects	C 191-235	Homework 7
3/14	Confucius Analects	“The Four Books” handouts	First Draft
3/19	Dao Book	“The <i>Daodejing</i> ” handout L 1-40	Homework 8
3/21	De Book	L 41-84	
3/26	Zhuangzi	Z vii-21; 129-165	Homework 9
3/28	Zhuangzi	Z 21-54; 165-212	
4/2	Review		Homework 10
4/4	Mid-Term Exam 2		
4/9	Introduction to Zen	ZS vii-xxxii; 1-12	Extra Credit 1
4/11	Hui-neng	ZS 19-30	Second Draft
4/16	Shih-t’ou, Huang-po, Lin-chi	ZS 31-51	Extra Credit 2
4/18	Dogen	ZS 140-172	
4/23	Bankei, Hakuin	ZS 223-251	
4/25	Review		Final Draft
5/2	Final Exam: 8:30-10:30		