



## PHIL 3210: Asian Philosophy

2023 Summer Session	
<b>Total Class Sessions: 25</b> <b>Class Sessions Per Week: 5</b> <b>Total Weeks: 5</b> <b>Class Session Length (Minutes): 145</b> <b>Credit Hours: 4</b>	<b>Instructor: Staff</b> <b>Classroom: TBA</b> <b>Office Hours: TBA</b> <b>Language: English</b>

### **Course Description:**

This course studies Asian philosophies including Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, and Confucianism, and Japanese Philosophies. Topics like ethics, death, reality, self, and knowledge will be covered. A strong emphasis will be placed on different worldviews, conceptions of human nature and the good life from these philosophical perspectives. Comparisons with Western philosophies, religions and values will also be discussed.

### **Course Materials:**

#### **Course Pack**

The course pack is the only mandatory course materials. Students are not required to buy textbooks listed below. All required readings will be covered in the course pack.

#### **Booklist:**

***The Pulse of Wisdom: The Philosophies of India, China, and Japan,***

Michael C. Brannigan

Siddhartha, Hermann Hesse

***Dao De Jing: A Philosophical Translation***

2003, Roger Ames and David Hall

***The Analects of Confucius***

July 26, 2016, James Legge

***The Dhammapada: With Introductory Essays, Pali Text, English Translation and Notes (Oxford India Collection (Paperback)) Paperback***

March, 1996, S. Radhakrishnan (Editor)

### **Course Format and Requirements:**

This course includes lectures, discussions and in-class discussions. You are responsible for all material and information from class. Attendance is required.

#### **Attendance:**



Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis. Attendance will be taken throughout the semester. While attendance is not directly calculated into the student's course grade, it will be a factor in determining participation grades. After a student's 4th absence, each unexcused absences will result in an automatic drop in grade. With each unexcused absence your final letter grade will be dropped ½ a grade – NO EXCEPTIONS (e.g.: A to A-).

**Course Assignments:**

<p><b>Homework:</b></p> <p>Homework exercises should be done by the next class after they are assigned. It's important to finish all assigned homework because some of the questions on exams and quizzes will be based on homework exercises.</p>
<p><b>Quizzes:</b></p> <p>There will be 6 quizzes administered through the whole semester and the lowest scores will be dropped. Quizzes will always be completed in the first ten minutes of class. Quizzes will tend to cover topics covered in the lecture as well as topics covered in the homework. There will be no make-up quizzes.</p>
<p><b>Four Page Paper:</b></p> <p>Paper should be double spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1” margins all around. Place your name, assignment title, and date in the top right corner of the first page. Detailed topics for paper will be discussed in class.</p>
<p><b>Presentation:</b></p> <p>Students will form small groups to present course materials. The presentation will take half of the class time and presenters need to prepare a handout (outline for the presentation) for the whole class.</p> <p>Each team will give a 10-minute presentation on any topic, as long as it is educational and relevant to one of the themes covered in class the week before, subject to the instructor's approval. Presentations must not include offensive material and should not be similar to other presentations on that theme (on a first-come first served basis).</p>
<p><b>Exams:</b></p> <p>All the exams in this class will be based on the following format:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Short answer questions: You will be asked questions pertaining to subjects, issues and changes in art derived from readings on handouts.</li><li>2) Multiple choices</li><li>3) Short essay question: You will be asked to write an essay pertaining to a specific question.</li></ol> <p>2 midterm exams</p> <p>This course will have 2 closed-book mid-term exams. Each exam will cover course materials taught until the day before the exam. Each exam is not cumulative. Each exam is worth 20% of the final grade. Both midterms will be taken in-class using the first 60-75 min of lecture time and</p>



rest lecture time will be used for new lectures.

### Final exam

A three-hour, closed-book final exam will be taken at the end of the session. The final exam is cumulative, based on contents taught in the whole semester. The final exam is worth 25% of the final grade. Note that the final will not be taken during the normal class times. Exact time and location for final will be announced in the last week of sessions.

### **Course Assessment:**

Quizzes	10%
Paper	10%
Homework	5%
Presentation	10%
Midterm Exams 1	20%
Midterm Exams 2	20%
Final Exam	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Grading Scale (percentage):**

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
98-	93-	90-	88-	83-	80-	78-	73-	70-	68-	63-	60-	<60
100	97	92	89	87	82	79	77	72	69	67	62	

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Chengdu University of Technology's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

### **Special Needs or Assistance:**

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.



## **Course Schedule:**

Class 1:

Course Overview;  
Go through syllabus;  
Terminologies;  
Critical thinking

Class 2:

Introduction to Hinduism;  
Begin Indian Philosophy  
Summary of Hindu Principles ;  
Hindu Origins and History;  
Sacred Texts;  
The Social Caste System

Class 3:

The Social Caste System  
The Four Stages of Life;  
The Four Aims of Life;  
Paths to Moksha  
Paths to Moksha;

Class 4:

Quiz 1  
Hindu Worship and the Gods  
Hindu Rituals and Festivals;  
The Role of Women in Hinduism  
Introduction to Buddhism;

Class 5:

Basic Buddhist Thought;  
Early Indian Buddhism  
The Four Noble Truths;  
Suffering's causes and solution: Nirvana, Dukkha  
Noble Eightfold Path;

Class 6:

Rebirth;  
Karma;  
Impermanent body VS. Real permanent Self  
The Story of Buddha;

Class 7:

Quiz 2



Early Buddhism over the world;  
Timeline of Buddhism;  
The Rise of Buddhist Denominations

Class 8:  
Timeline of Buddhism;  
The Rise of Buddhist Denominations;  
The Dhammapada

Class 9:  
Buddhist Ethics: the ten precepts;  
Buddhism today;  
Monastic life;  
Buddhism today;  
Monastic life

Class 10:  
Midterm Exam 1

Class 11:  
Intro to Chinese Philosophy;  
Overview of history;  
Substance ontology VS. Process ontology  
Qi;  
Qi-material force;  
Human and the nature;

Class 12:  
Quiz 3  
Yin and Yang;  
Idea of Dao, De, Li  
Introduction to Confucianism;  
Confucius  
The Analects (Lun Yu);  
The Five Classics (Wujing);  
The Four Books (Sishu)

Class 13:  
Major Confucian concepts and ethics;  
Ren, Yi, Li, Zhi and Xin;  
Zhong, Xiao, Jie and Yi  
Mencius;  
Xunzi;  
Comparing Confucius, Mencius and Xunzi;  
A debate between Mencius and Xunzi: Is human nature basically good or bad?



Class 14:

Quiz 4

Humaneness and Human Rights;

Loyalty and Relationships;

Idea of 'Junzi'

Neo-Confucianism;

Development of Confucianism in Tang, Song and Ming Dynasties;

Class 15:

Chengzhu-School;

Lu-Wang School;

Metaphysics developed in Neo-Confucianism;

Metaphysics developed in Neo-Confucianism;

Modern Neo-Confucianism;

Confucianism over the world

Class 16:

Taoism (Daoism);

Term 'Tao';

History of Taoism;

Story of Laozi;

The School of Naturalists;

The Warring States period

Class 17:

Quiz 5

Influential Taoist Text: The Tao Te Ching;

The Zhuangzi;

The Yijing;

Other texts

Yin and Yang;

The Five Phases;

Naturalness

Class 18:

Taoism Ethics;

Tao and Te;

Wu-Wei;

Ziran;

Taoism: Cosmology;

Theology

Class 19:

Midterm Exam 2



Class 20:

Other Ancient Chinese Philosophy: Mohism and Mozi;  
Legalism and Hanfeizi;  
Buddhism in China;  
Zen (Chan) Buddhism

Class 21:

Intro to Japanese Philosophy;  
Shinto and Japan Creation Myth;  
Shinto Theology and cosmology;

Class 22:

Quiz 6  
Kami, Kannagara and Amenominakanushi  
Shinto Ethics and Practice;  
Early Arrival of Buddhism;  
Kamakura Buddhism;  
Early Modern Japanese Thoughts;

Class 23:

Neo-Confucianism in Japan  
Kokugaku: Idea of Purity;  
Rangaku: Beginning, expansion and types of science;

Class 24:

Dutch Learning, western knowledge and influence of Rangaku;  
Rangaku, science and modernization of Japan  
Ethics in Japan;

Class 25:

Wrap-up of all;  
The comparative practices of Asia: Hinduism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism  
Review for final exam

Final Exam (Cumulative): TBA