

PHL237 History of Chinese Philosophy

Lectured by Prof. Vincent Shen

Room: SS 1069; Time M 17.00-19.00; W 17.00-18.00

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Brief Description

This is an introductory course (both historical and systematic) to the major philosophical traditions in China, such as Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism, and their development from ancient to modern times in four periods: 1. the emergence of Confucianism, Daoism, and other minor schools; 2. the introduction of Buddhism and development of various sects of Chinese Mahayana Buddhism; 3. the development of Neo-Confucianism; 4. the challenge from the West and later development. Major thinkers, basic concepts, texts, and their historical contexts will be the focus of discussion.

Method of Evaluation

1. Attendance: 15% Based on your attendance record.

2. First in-class test: 25%(October 5 W. 5.10-6.00 p.m. From the beginning to the end of Classical Daoism), and **Final in-class test 25%**(December 5 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Chinese Mahayana Buddhism, Neo-Confucianism and Introduction of Western PHL). Students are responsible of the contents of lectures, texts explained in class and required readings (Fung's *Short History* and its corrections by Prof. Shen). Do not miss any test; otherwise you will have no mark for the missed test. Make-up test is agreed only to those who can provide an official UofT medical certificate.

3. Essay 35% (due **October 31 M**): 4 full pages, a critical reading report (summary of ideas and critical reflections on them) at least two chapters of any book in the bibliography or two papers in the journals of Chinese philosophy. **Textbook should not be used for this purpose.** Typed written and 1.5 spaced, using the MLA (Modern Language Association) Style. It should be submitted in-class on the due date or in the mailbox of Prof. Shen located at the Department of East Asian Studies, on the 14th floor of Robarts Library, before 4.30p.m. Late submissions will be penalized at the rate of 3% per day of lateness including weekends and holidays. Extension will only be granted for documented medical reasons.

Office hours:

Tuesday 3.00-5.00p.m., Room 14209, 14th floor, Robarts Library, Tel.416-978-7568

Grading TA: Keegan Goodman, Email: ["K. Goodman" <jdkgoodman@gmail.com>](mailto:K.Goodman@jdkgoodman@gmail.com)

Textbook:

Fung Yu-lan, *A Short History of Chinese Philosophy*, New York: The Free Press, 1976. (that you may purchase at UofT Bookstore)

[For more Chinese philosophical texts in English translation, **you may consult (not as textbook)**):

Chan, Wing-tsit, translated and compiled, *A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1973. (For a Chinese translation of this book: 陳榮捷, 中國哲學文獻選編, 台北: 巨流圖書公司, 1993 [*Chen rong-jie, Zhongguo zhexe wenxian xuanbian*, Taipei: Juliu, 1993] (To be consulted in EAS Library)

Courseware Website: <http://link.library.utoronto.ca/easic/>

User name: ChinesePhilo Password: philochinese

We use Pinyin system for the phonetic transcription of Chinese terms, though some available translations are still in Wade-Giles. For the conversion, see:

Pinyin to Wade Giles: <http://link.library.utoronto.ca/eal/flash/ptow.cfm>

Wade Giles to Pinyin: <http://link.library.utoronto.ca/eal/flash/wtop.cfm>

About Philosophical writing: <http://philosophy.utoronto.ca/phlwrite/>

Against Plagiarism: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

Essay Writing Styles: You may use MLA (Modern Language Association) Style. See: <http://www.calstatela.edu/library/styleman.htm#mla>

Reference Books:

Encyclopedia of Chinese Philosophy, London: Routledge/Garland, 2002. Especially those articles by Vincent Shen: *Laozi* (6th Century BC?), *Ren* (humanity), *Classical Daoism*, *Yang Zhu*, *Zhenren* (authentic person), *Thomé H. Fang* (1899-1977), *Recent Philosophical Trends*.

Encyclopedia of Philosophy: Vincent Shen's entries on *Chinese Philosophy: Metaphysics and Epistemology*, and other entries on Chinese Philosophy. Ed. Donald Borchert. 2nd ed. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2006.

Time Table (Susceptible of change. Check always the course website for updates)

September 12 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Introduction to PHL237. Characteristics of Chinese Philosophy; Classical Confucianism, First Phase: Confucius. (Fung: Chapters 1, 2, 4).

September 14 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Confucius (Continued) [for your reference, Shen's article *Ren* (humanity) in the *Encyclopedia of Chinese Philosophy*]

September 19 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Second phase: Si-Meng School: from Zisi (493-406BC?) to Mencius (371?-289BC). (Fung: Ch. 7).

September 21 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Third phase: Xünzi (298-238BC). (Fung: Ch. 13).

September 26 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Xunzi (continued); Classical Daoism, First phase: Laozi (6th Century BC?). (Fung: Ch. 9). [for your reference Shen's article *Laozi* in the *Encyclopedia of Chinese Philosophy*]

September 28 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Tutorial by Prof. Shen, Updating Fung's book. Q&A.

October 3 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Laozi (Continued); Second phase: Zhuangzi (399-295BC). (Fung: Ch. 10); [for your reference *History of Chinese Philosophy*, edited by Mou, Ch. 8, by Vincent Shen; Shen's article *Classical Daoism* in the *Encyclopedia of Chinese Philosophy*]

October 5 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. First in-class test.

October 10 M Thanksgiving. No Class

October 12 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Introduction of Buddhism to China. Ch.21; Sanlun (Three Treatises) School and Jizang (549-623AD).

October 17 M 5.10-6.00 p.m. Sanlun (continued); Weishi (Consciousness-Only) School and Xuanzang (596-664AD).

October 19 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Weishi (Consciousness-Only) School and Xuanzang (596-664AD) (continued)

October 24 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Tiantai School and Zhiyi (538-597AD)

October 26 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Huayan School and Fazang (643-712AD).

October 31 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Chan School: Shenxiu (605?-706AD) and Huineng (638-713AD). (Fung: Ch. 22). **Submission of your Essay.**

November 2 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Beginning of Early Neo-Confucians; Zhou Dunyi and Zhang Zai. (Fung: Ch. 23).

November 7 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. November Pause for A&S, No Class.

November 9 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Tutorial by Prof. Shen, updating Fung's book, Q&A.

November 14 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Zhou Dunyi and Zhang Zai (continued); Realist Neo-Confucians: Zhu Xi (1130-1200AD). (Fung: Ch.25).

November 16 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. 5.10-6.00 p.m. Zhu Xi(continued).

November 21 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Idealist Neo-Confucianism: Lu Xiangsan (1139-1193AD), Wang Yangming (1472-1529AD); Fung: Ch.26.

November 23 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Introduction of Western Philosophy and Christianity to China and the beginning of the 4th Period of Chinese Philosophy. (Fung: Ch. 27).

November 28 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Introduction of Western Philosophy and Christianity (continued). Naturalist Neo-Confucianism: Wang Fuzi (1619—1692) and Dai Zheng (1724—1777)

November 30 W 5.10-6.00 p.m. Prof Shen's tutorial: updating Fung's book.

December 5 M 5.10-7.00 p.m. Final Test; **Return of the term paper**

BIBLIOGRAPHY (to pick for Reading Report)

I. Books in Western Languages

- Bell, Daniel A, *China's New Confucianism: Politics and Everyday Life in a Changing Society*, Princeton University Press, April 2008.
- Chong, Kim-chong, *Early Confucian Ethics*, Chicago: Open Court, 2007
- De Bary, Wm., Theodore, *Neo-Confucian Orthodoxy and the Learning of the Mind/Heart*, New York: Columbia De Bary, Wm., Theodore, ed., *The Unfolding of Neo-Confucianism*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1975
- Graham, A.C., *Disputers of the Tao-Philosophical Arguments in Ancient China*, Chicago: Open Court, 1989
- Graham, A.C., *Studies in Chinese Philosophy and Philosophical Literature*, Albany: State University of New York Press, 1990
- Mou, Bo (editor). *History of Chinese Philosophy*, New York: Routledge, 2009.
- Liu, JeeLoo, *An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy: from Ancient Philosophy to Chinese Buddhism*, Oxford: Blackwell, 2006.
- Schwartz, Benjamin, *The World of Thought in Ancient China*. Cambridge, Mass.: The Nelknap Press of the Harvard University Press, 1985
- Shen, Vincent, ed., *Dao Companion to Classical Confucian Philosophy*, Dordrecht: Springer 2013
- Shen, Vincent, "Enjoy in the Breeze of Spring-Living in the Confucian Tradition," in *Why I Am a Believer: Personal Reflections on Nine World Religions*, Edited By Arvind Sharma, in New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 2009, pp. 150-190.
- Shen, Vincent (ed. with Kwong-loi Shun), *Chinese Ethics in Retrospect and Prospect*, Washington DC: Council for Research in Value and Philosophy, 2007.
- Shen, Vincent, ed. (with W. Oxtoby), *Wisdom in China and the West*, Washington DC: Council for Research in Value and Philosophy. 2004.
- Shen, Vincent Shen, *Confucianism, Taoism and Constructive Realism* (in English), Vienna: Vienna University Press, 1994, 135 pages
- Van Norden, Bryan, *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*, Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Co., 2011
- Yu, Jiyuan, *The Ethics of Confucius and Aristotle*, New York: Routledge, 2007
- Zhang Dainian, *Key Concepts in Chinese Philosophy*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002

II. Books on Chinese and Comparative Philosophy by Vincent Shen (For UofT library search, key in: Qingsong Shen)

8. Vincent Shen, *From Matteo Ricci to Heidegger*(in traditional Chinese), Taipei: Taipei Commercial Press, 2014. (in simplified Chinese) Shanghai: Eastern China Normal University Press, 2016.

7. Thâm Thanh Tùng(Qingsong Shen), *Sự Tái Sinh Của Truyền Thống* (Rebirth of Tradition), translated into Vietnamese by Nguyễn Tài Thư, Ho Chi Minh City, Nha Xuất Ban Phương Đông, 2005
6. Vincent Shen, *Shen Qing-song Zixuanzhi* (An Anthology of Vincent Shen), Jinan: Shandong Education Press, 2005.
5. Vincent Shen, *Generosity to the Other: Chinese Culture, Christianity and Strangification* (in Chinese), Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2004.
4. Vincent Shen, *Contrast, Strangification and Dialogue*(in Chinese), Taipei: Wunan Publishing Co., 2002
- 3.Vincent Shen, editor, *Chinese Concept of Value- the Humanist Viewpoint* (in Chinese), Taipei: Gueguan, 1993. (in simplified Chinese) Beijin: Renmin University Press, 2013.
- 2.Vincent Shen, *The Rebirth of Tradition* (in Chinese), Taipei, Ye Qiang Press, 1992.
- 1.Vincent Shen, *Studies in Contemporary Philosophy East and West* (in Chinese), Liming Publishing Co., Taipei, 1985.

III. Journals on Chinese Philosophy: (Can be found on the 4th Floor of Robarts Library or online):

1. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*
2. *Dao: A Journal in Comparative Philosophy*
3. *Philosophy East and West*
4. 哲學與文化 *Zhexue yu Wenhua* (Universitas: A Monthly Review of Philosophy and Culture)