

Lingnan University
Department of Philosophy

Course Title	: Contemporary Neo-Confucianism
Course Code	: PHI4334
Recommended Study Year	: 4 th 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	: Programme Elective –Chinese Philosophy Profile
Recommendation(s)	: At least one course in History of Chinese Philosophy 1. PHI2112 History of Chinese Philosophy: From Pre-Qin to Han 2. PHI2116 History of Chinese Philosophy: From Wei Jin to Ming
Co-requisite(s)	: N/A
Exclusion(s)	: N/A
Exemption Requirement(s)	: N/A

Brief Course Description

In this course, students will study Contemporary Neo-Confucianism as one of the most significant intellectual responses to the cultural crises since China started her modernisation in the 19th century. This school of thought is significant not only because it comprises various major thinkers in facing the crises of Chinese culture, but also because it develops and deepens itself over time.

Apart from introducing the common views and beliefs shared by the Contemporary Neo-Confucian thinkers, this course will focus discussing the individual thoughts of Mou Zongsan, Tang Junyi and Xu Fuguan. Finally, the course will examine the possible development of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism in order to evaluate how it tackles cultural ethical issues as well as issues of nationalism in the contemporary world.

Aims

This course aims at providing student with the understanding of the cultural crises of China in late 19th century and the responses of it from the important Contemporary Neo-Confucian thinkers. It also aims at examining the philosophy of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism as inherited as well as developed from classical Confucianism.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students are expected to grasp Contemporary Neo-Confucianism's stand with regard to the following issues: How should we understand and evaluate the essential characteristics of traditional Chinese culture? (LO1) They should evaluate traditional Chinese culture critically hence can answer the following questions: Is the value system in traditional Chinese culture compatible with that of the modern world? To what extent can Western civilisation benefit the transformation of Chinese culture? How can traditional Chinese culture contribute to the process of modernisation? (LO2) They should reflect on the following issue: How does the philosophy of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism contribute to resolve philosophical issues in Western philosophy? (LO3)

Indicative Content

1. Introduction: Confucianism and Contemporary Neo-Confucianism
2. Historical background of Contemporary Neo-Confucian Thought

3. Stand and view of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism
 - a. The understanding of essential characteristic of traditional Chinese culture
 - b. The evaluation of traditional Chinese culture
 - c. The challenge by Western civilization
 - d. The evaluation of Western civilization
 - e. The contribution of traditional Chinese culture to the process of modernization
4. The Thought of Tang Junyi
5. The Thought of Mou Zongsan
6. The Thought of Xu Fuguan
7. The possible development of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism
8. The Critique of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism

Teaching Method

Lecture and tutorial

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Students will give oral presentation on assigned topic in the tutorials. They are expected to be able to analyse and synthesize various points of view on the understanding and evaluation of the essential characteristics of traditional Chinese culture. They are also expected to discuss in depth how traditional Chinese culture contribute to the process of modernization. (LO1; LO2)
2. Students will write a term paper. They are expected to consolidate the knowledge they have learned in this course. They will discuss issues such as whether the value system in traditional Chinese culture compatible with that of the modern world and to what extent Western civilisation can benefit the transformation of Chinese culture. They should be able to draw on a range of sources in making judgments. (LO2; LO3)
3. Examination will assess students' general knowledge of the thoughts of Contemporary Neo-Confucianism. Students should be able to show their understanding and reflection of issues involved in the subject. (LO2; LO3)

Assessment

1. Tutorial 30%
2. Term paper 30%
3. Final Examination 30%
4. Attendance 10%

Required Readings

鄭家棟，《現代新儒學概論》，南寧：廣西人民出版社，1990。

蔡仁厚，《新儒家的精神方向》，台北：台灣學生局，1984。

Supplementary Readings

方克立編，《文化意識宇宙的探索：唐君毅新儒學論著輯要》，北京：中國廣播電視出版社，1992。

余英時，「錢穆與新儒家」，《猶記風吹水上粼》，台北：三民書局，1991。

李維武編，《中國人文精神之闡揚 — 徐復觀新儒學論著輯要》，北京：中國廣播電視出版社，1996。

啟良，《新儒學批判》，上海：上海三聯書店，1995。

黃克劍、周勤，《寂寞中的復興 — 論當代新儒家》，南昌：江西人民出版社，1994。

鄭家棟編，《道德理想主義的重建 — 牟宗三新儒學論著輯要》，北京：中國廣播電視出版社，1992。

顏炳罡，《整合與重鑄：當代大儒牟宗三先生思想研究》，台北：學生書局，1995。

張祥浩，《唐君毅思想研究》，天津：天津人民出版社，1994。

羅義俊編，《評新儒家》，上海：上海人民出版社，1989。

- 李明輝，《當代儒家之自我轉化》，台北：中國文哲研究所籌備處，1996。
- 唐君毅，《中華人文與當今世界》，台北：臺灣學生書局，1991。
- 唐君毅，《中國文化之精神價值》，台北：正中，1969。
- 唐君毅，《人文精神之重建》，台北：臺灣學生書局，1991。
- 唐君毅，《文化意識與道德理性》，香港：友聯出版社，1958。
- 唐君毅，《生命存在與心靈境界》，台北：臺灣學生書局，1991。
- 牟宗三，《歷史哲學》，台北：臺灣學生書局，1984。
- 牟宗三，《政道與治道》，台北：臺灣學生書局，1983。
- 牟宗三，《圓善論》，台北：臺灣學生，1985。
- 梁瑞明，《心靈九境與人生哲學：唐君毅先生《生命存在與心靈境界》導讀》，香港：志蓮淨苑，2006。

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/>