

Introduction to Confucianism

Confucian or Ruist philosophy is one of the oldest philosophical traditions in the world and has been a fundamental philosophical, ideological, and religious pillar throughout much of China's (and other Asian societies') history. The seminar will introduce the three most important periods: First, the origins of the tradition associated with the figures of Confucius (Kongzi/ Kong Fuzi), Mencius (Mengzi) and Sun Tzu (Sunzi). Secondly, the Neo-Confucian period, which focuses mainly on Zhou Dunyi, Zhu Xi, and Wang Yangming. The last third section of the semester will then focus on the so-called "New Confucianism" of the 20th century.

Reading list

- ANGLE, S. C.: Sagehood. The Contemporary Significance of Neo-Confucian Philosophy. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- ANGLE, S. C.: Contemporary Confucian Political Philosophy. Cambridge – Malden: Polity, 2012.
- CHAN, W.: A Source Book in Chinese philosophy. Princeton: Princeton U. Press, 1969.
- DUNAJ, Ľ.: Towards critical aspects of Confucianism. In: Ethics & Bioethics (in Central Europe), 2016, 6 (3–4), pp. 135-145.
- LAU, D. C. (tr.) *Confucius: The Analects* (paperback bilingual edition). Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2002.
- LAU, D. C. (tr.), *Mencius* (revised and bilingual edition). Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2003.
- KANG, Y.: Die große Gemeinschaft: Der Reformier Kang. Esslingen am Neckar: Drachenhäuser Verlag, 2020.
- ROETZ, H.: Confucian Ethics of the Axial Age: A Reconstruction Under the Aspect of the Breakthrough Toward Postconventional Thinking. Albany: SUNY Press, 1993.
- SIGURÐSSON: Confucian Propriety and Ritual Learning: A Philosophical Interpretation. Albany: SUNY Press, 2015.