



IMAGINING EDUCATIONAL FUTURES

a webinar series by the National Institute of Education, Singapore



VIRTUE ETHICS FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION: CURRENT RESEARCH TRENDS AND IMPLICATIONS

21 January 2022 (Friday) | 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM (Singapore Time) | ZOOM

In recent years, interest and research in virtue ethics has grown, particularly given its implications on cultivating more agentic approaches to character education that overcomes some problems with outcomes and principle-based approaches to ethics.

In this seminar, we explore some of the following questions: "What is the current research on virtue ethics and how can this inform character education in schools?", "What are the overlaps and differences between traditions of virtue ethics from Eastern and Western philosophy?" and "What are various ideals of the flourishing life we can envision and how can educators and policymakers support this in education?"

Join our speakers Professor James Arthur, Professor Sungmoon Kim, Professor Charlene Tan, and Associate Professor Suzanne Choo as we explore what it means to promote character education in an uncertain and interconnected global age.

Please scan the QR code to register or go to:

<https://rebrand.ly/IEF-VE>



Please direct all enquiries to oer.pubs@nie.edu.sg

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Professor James Arthur
School of Education,
Director of the Jubilee Centre for
Character and Virtues,
University of Birmingham

James Arthur is Director of the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues and also the Chair of the Society for Educational Studies, and was Head of the School of Education 2010 – 2015 and Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor 2015 – 2019 at the University of Birmingham. He was previously Editor of the *British Journal of Educational Studies* for ten years and holds numerous honorary titles in the academe, including Honorary Professor of the University of Glasgow and Honorary Research Fellow in the University of Oxford. James was made an Officer of the British Empire by the Queen in 2018. He has written widely on the relationship between theory and practice in education, particularly the links between character, virtues, citizenship, religion and education. James established the Jubilee Centre in 2012, and the Centre has grown in size, scope, and impact since its launch at the House of Lords in May 2012.



Professor Sungmoon Kim
Professor, Department of Public Policy,
Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
and Social Sciences,
Director, Center for East Asian and
Comparative Philosophy,
City University of Hong Kong

Sungmoon Kim is a professor in the Department of Public Policy at City University of Hong Kong where he also serves as Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and director of the Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy. He received a PhD in political science from the University of Maryland at College Park and taught previously at the University of Richmond. As a political theorist, Kim's research interests include Confucian democratic and constitutional theory, comparative political theory, and history of East Asian political thought and he published four books in these areas: *Confucian Democracy in East Asia: Theory and Practice* (Cambridge UP, 2014), *Public Reason Confucianism: Democratic Perfectionism and Constitutionalism in East Asia* (Cambridge UP, 2016), *Democracy after Virtue: Toward Pragmatic Confucian Democracy* (Oxford UP, 2018), and *Theorizing Confucian Virtue Politics: The Political Philosophy of Mencius and Xunzi* (Cambridge UP, 2020). He has also published his research in numerous political science, law, and philosophy journals including *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *History of Political Thought*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, and *Philosophy East and West*. Currently, Kim is working on a new book manuscript entitled *Confucian Constitutionalism: Dignity, Rights, and Democracy* for Oxford University Press.



Professor Charlene Tan
Faculty of Education,
The University of Hong Kong

Charlene Tan (PhD in Philosophy) is a professor at the Faculty of Education, University of Hong Kong. Born and raised in Singapore, she has over two decades of teaching experience as a schoolteacher and teacher educator in Singapore. She is the author of *Confucius* (Bloomsbury), *Confucian philosophy for contemporary education* (Routledge) and *Mindful education: Insights from Confucian and Christian traditions* (Springer). Her current research interests include ethics in Chinese philosophy, virtue and leadership as well as moral education.



Assoc Prof Suzanne Choo
National Institute of Education
Nanyang Technological University

Suzanne Choo is Associate Professor in the English Language and Literature Academic Group at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her research has been published in various peer-reviewed journals such as *Harvard Educational Review*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education*, among others. Her book, *Reading the world, the globe, and the cosmos: Approaches to teaching literature for the twenty-first century* (Peter Lang, 2013) was awarded the 2014 Critics Choice Book Award by the American Educational Studies Association. Her most recent books are co-edited volumes titled *Educating for the twenty-first century: Perspectives, policies and practices from around the world* (Springer, 2017) and *Literature education in the Asia-Pacific: Policies and practices and perspectives in global times* (Routledge, 2018). She recently published a book titled *Teaching ethics through literature: The significance of ethical criticism in a global age* (Routledge, 2021).