

CAH3110: READINGS IN PRE-QIN CONFUCIANISM AND DAOISM

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Readings in Pre-Qin Confucianism and Daoism

Subject Code

CAH - Chinese and History

Course Number

3110

Academic Unit

Chinese and History (CAH)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

Chinese

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

CTL3110 Readings in Pre-Qin Confucianism and Daoism

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The aim is to help students describe features of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period through readings in Chinese thought. A comprehensive knowledge of Chinese thought will enable the students to reflect on and discover their principles and attitude towards life.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	describe and analyze writings of classical Chinese thought,	20	x		
2	describe and analyze features of Confucianism in pre-Qin China,	30	x		
3	describe and analyze features of Daoism in pre-Qin China,	30	x		
4	analyse, reflect on and discover the principles of Confucianism and Daoist thought in relation to modern life	20	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Students will engage in lectures to gain knowledges and insights from the explanation of The Analects of Confucius, The Mencius, Dao De Jing and Zhuangzi by the teacher in close detail.	1, 2, 3, 4	

2	Tutorial	Students will give oral presentation and engage in group discussion in order to increase their academic knowledges and communication skills. Students can further explore and discover the applicability of the wisdom of the ancient Chinese philosophers in modern society.	1, 2, 3, 4	
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Term paper	1, 2, 3, 4	35	-	Yes
2	Oral Presentations	2, 3	25	-	Yes
3	Mid-term test	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Term paper

Criterion

1. Knowledge of the subject.
2. Critical thinking ability in reviewing relevant researches.
3. Application of relevant theories.
4. Ability in knowledge application.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent command of knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism;
2. Excellent critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to Confucianism and Daoism;
3. Excellent application of theories in studying Confucianism and Daoism;
4. Excellent ability in knowledge application.

Good (B+, B, B-)

1. Good command of knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism;
2. Good critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to Confucianism and Daoism;
3. Good application of theories in studying Confucianism and Daoism;
4. Good ability in knowledge application.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

1. Fair command of knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism;
2. Fair critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to Confucianism and Daoism;
3. Fair application of theories in studying Confucianism and Daoism;
4. Fair ability in knowledge application.

Marginal (D)

1. Marginal command of knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism;
2. Marginal critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to Confucianism and Daoism;
3. Marginal application of theories in studying Confucianism and Daoism;
4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.

Failure (F)

1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism;
 2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/ research articles related to Confucianism and Daoism;
 3. Unsatisfactory application of theories in studying Confucianism and Daoism;
 4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application.
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Assessment Task

Oral presentations

Criterion

Oral presentations on topics about Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period will be required, to evaluate students' analytical, reflective and discover ability.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent command of knowledge and discovering ability in the area of the Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good command of knowledge and discovering ability in the area of the Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate command of knowledge and discovering ability in the area of the Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Marginal (D)

Marginal command of knowledge and discovering ability in the area of the Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Failure (F)

Unacceptable command of knowledge and discovering ability in the area of the Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Assessment Task

Mid-term test

Criterion

Mid-term test will be held to assess students' knowledge and ability in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent command of knowledge in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good command of knowledge in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate command of knowledge in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Marginal (D)

Marginal command of knowledge in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Failure (F)

Unacceptable command of knowledge in describing, analysing, applying, reflecting on and discovering principles of Confucianism and Daoism in the pre-Qin period.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

- (a) Confucianism: Sishu 四書 (The Four Books)
 i Daxue 大學 (The Great Learning)
 ii Zhongyong 中庸 (The Doctrine of the Mean)
 iii Selected readings of Lunyu 論語 (The Analects of Confucius)
 iv Selected readings of Mengzi 孟子 (The Analects of Mencius)
 (b) Daoism:
 i Laozi: Dao De Jing 老子
 ii Selected readings of Zhuangzi 莊子

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	楊伯峻譯注，《論語譯注》，北京：中華，1980。
2	楊伯峻譯注，《孟子譯注》，北京：中華，1960。
3	陳鼓應注釋，《老子今注今譯》，北京：商務，2006。
4	陳鼓應注釋，《莊子今注今譯》，北京：商務，2007。

Additional Readings

Title	
1	朱熹，《四書章句集注》，北京：中華，1989。
2	郭慶藩，《莊子集釋》，北京：中華，1995。
3	高明，《帛書老子校注》，北京：中華，1995。
4	錢穆，《四書釋義》，台北：中華文化，1965。
5	余英時，《中國思想傳統與現代詮釋》，台北：聯經，1995。
6	杜維明著，彭國翔編譯，《儒家傳統與文明對話》，河北：河北人民，2006。