

material, assignments, and exams. Often such discussions outside the classroom can be even more valuable than regular class time for the student.

Finally, in order to offer additional opportunities to ask and answer questions and to discuss course material outside the classroom, an online discussion group has been established on Canvas. Participating actively in the on-line group, you can take advantage of an ideal opportunity for you to participate if you happen to be shy speaking in front of a group. The group site will also be used by the instructors and students to organize review sessions and study groups, exchange ideas on and suggestions about the midterm and final papers, and generally to facilitate the learning process.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the quarter, you be able to:

1. Identify the major schools of ancient and pre-modern Chinese and Japanese political philosophy and the principal thinkers associated with each school of thought.
2. Describe how the various schools differ from each other in terms of the fundamental values of each school, how they understand the human condition, and the solutions they propose in the realm of politics.
3. Identify similarities and differences between Chinese and Japanese schools of political thought, their mutual influences.
4. Understand how traditional Chinese and Japanese philosophies influence contemporary politics in contemporary China and Japan with regard to such key issue areas as:
 - a. human rights
 - b. the relationship between the state and society
 - c. the relationship between the state and religion

The syllabus is your roadmap for achieving these objectives.

The following books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore and are also available on reserve at Geisel Library:

- Wing-tsit Chan, trans. and comp., *A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1969), paper, ISBN 0-691-21964-9
- Wm Theodore de Bary, *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, vol. 1, 2nd ed. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001), paper, ISBN 0-231-12139-3
- William Soothill, trans., *The Lotus of the Wonderful Law, or The Lotus Gospel* (New York: RoutledgeCurzon, 1993), paper, ISBN 0-7007-0198-2

SCHEDULE OF DISCUSSION TOPICS AND READINGS

WEEK 1: JAN 6 Course Introduction.

**What is Political Philosophy? The Notion of the "Political",
Legitimacy, and Comparative Political Thought**

Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chap. 1

- WEEK 2: JAN 13 The Chinese Historical Setting and the Emergence of Confucianism**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 2-3
- WEEK 3: JAN 20 No class meeting [Martin Luther King, Jr. Day]**
Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (I)
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 4-6
- WEEK 4: JAN 27 Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (II) (Daoism, Mohism, Legalism)**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 7-10, 12
- WEEK 5: FEB 3 The Yin-Yang School and the Book of Change (*Yijing*)**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 11, 13
- WEEK 6: FEB 10 Buddhist Influences in China and Japan**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 14-16
- NO CLASS MEETING ON MONDAY, FEB. 17 (PRESIDENTS' DAY)**
MIDTERM PAPER DUE ON MONDAY, FEB. 17 VIA TURNITIN
- WEEK 7: FEB 17 Indigenous Thought in Ancient Japan and Further Developments in Political Thought in China**
Reading: De Bary, *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, vol. 1, chaps. 1-3, 5-6 (in both editions)
Chan, chaps. 17-19
- WEEK 8: FEB 24 The Elaboration of Buddhism in India and China**
Reading: *The Lotus Sutra* (trans. Soothill)
- WEEK 9: MAR 2 Zen Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism**
Reading: Chan, chaps. 20 and 26
De Bary, *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, I: chaps. 7, 10, 13 (chap. 11 in the 1st ed.), and 14 (chap. 12 in the 1st ed.)
- WEEK 10: MAR 9 Conclusions and Review Session**

Course Requirements and Grading

All students are expected to attend every class meeting prepared to participate actively and constructively in class discussion.¹ The class participation component of the course grade will be based on such participation in all sessions. The formula that will determine the final grade is as follows:

Class attendance and participation:	30%
Midterm written assignment:	30%
Final take-home examination:	40%

There will be a midterm essay, 5-7 pages long, due on February 17, via Turnitin. There will be a final essay, 10 to 12 pages long, due on Monday, March 16, 7-10 p.m. via Turnitin. (This class, therefore, meets the ERC writing requirement).

¹ The exception to this rule is in case of illness. If you are ill, please do not come to class and expose others to your illness. When you have recovered, simply bring a doctor's note to verify your illness. If you anticipate missing class for some other reason, please notify the instructor in advance by telephone or e-mail.