

PHIL104 (ASIA104 /RELS104) Asian Philosophy

Multiple Online Sections

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Bo Mou

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This GE course presents a philosophical examination of some central ideas of *Yi-Jing* philosophy, Confucianism, Daoism, Hinduism, Buddhism and some other significant movements of thought in Asian philosophical traditions. There are three emphases. (1) We emphasize appreciation of distinctive ways of thinking and methodological approaches to develop a critical and balanced mind/capacity to look at things from distinct perspectives and a higher and broader vantage point (for the sake of capturing and understanding various aspects of the things). (2) We emphasize appreciation of some representative substantial ideas and visions in Asian philosophy and their historical and cultural contexts (in which they changed and developed over time when facing internal and external challenges/pressures) to achieve new visions and perspectives and to expand our understanding of the world and human life. (3) We take a comparative approach by which those Asian philosophical thoughts will be constructively compared with each other and/or with some thoughts in Western philosophical tradition to appreciate how they can make joint contributions to our understanding and treatment of some philosophically significant issues and concerns.

This course fulfills the following general education requirement: Area V of SJSU Studies (Culture, Civilization and Global Understanding).

Prerequisite: Completion of core GE, satisfaction of Writing Skills Test and upper division standing. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W course is strongly recommended.

Course Format

All the regular class communications and required class activities (such as class discussion) will be made fully online (via the class website at SJSU *eCampus*, with the email account as a back-up means whenever in need) without requiring in-person meetings at physical locations on SJSU campus; however, the instructor will arrange office hours on campus for those in need of face-to-face consultation.