

# Philosophy 120 / Spring 2021 / SJSU

## ***Comparative Philosophy:***

*Theory & Practice*

Dr. Bo Mou

(online via Canvas)

This course focuses on selected topics concerning theories and methodologies in comparative philosophy and cross-tradition-engagement case analyses. Comparative philosophy (or doing philosophy comparatively) is primarily concerned with how distinct approaches and resources from different philosophical traditions (whether distinguished culturally or by style/orientation) can talk to and learn from each other and make joint contributions to the contemporary development of philosophy on a range of jointly-concerned issues.

This course as given in Spring 2021 is to develop an overall methodological framework concerning a general way of doing philosophy comparatively, which has its across-the-board methodological significance for various areas of philosophical inquiry and other intellectual pursuits of “how things are”. The strategy is to go through an in-depth examination of a range of closely related fundamental theoretic and methodological issues and analyze several representative sample cases of cross-tradition engagement of distinct approaches from the two major philosophical traditions (the Western and Chinese traditions).

Texts: <1> Bo Mou: *Cross-Tradition Engagement in Philosophy* (Routledge 2020, inexpensive Kindle version); <2> Instructor edited *Course Reader* (free electronic copy).