

# Philosophy 120 (online) / Spring 2021 / SJSU

## ***Comparative Philosophy:***

### ***Theory & Practice***

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(2020-11-11 version)

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 consists of two parts: (1) to examine a range of closely related fundamental theoretic and methodological issues from the vantage point of constructive-engagement strategy of cross-tradition philosophical exploration; (2) To analyze several representative sample cases of cross-tradition engagement of distinct approaches from the two major philosophical traditions (the Western and Chinese traditions). In so doing, the course is also to help the students understand and elaborate 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”.

Texts: <1> Instructor edited *Course Reader*; <2> Tim Connolly: *Doing Philosophy Comparatively* (2015).