This course is the first part of a two-part series that offers an intensive examination of major strands of Chinese and Japanese political thought from antiquity to the mid-twentieth century. (It is not necessary to take both parts of the sequence.) You will be reading original writings of Chinese and Japanese philosophers in translation. We will endeavor to compare and contrast views of Chinese and Japanese philosophers with perspectives of leading ancient and modern Western thinkers. Special emphasis will be placed on how the views of Chinese and Japanese thinkers responded to changing conditions within and outside their own societies, and on how ideas changed as they moved from one historical and social context to another.

The course will be conducted in a combination lecture-discussion format. This means that all students are expected to have completed the assigned readings before attending the class sessions during which they will be discussed. Only thus can class discussions be stimulating and conducive to an interactive and effective learning process. The significance of active and productive participation in class discussions by every student in the class is reflected in the formula according to which final grades will be assigned. Since there is no edited, pre-selected English-language collection of specifically political philosophy in China or Japan, we will need to glean the political implications of the various strands of thought that we study.

Students are not expected to have a background in Chinese or Japanese history, although such knowledge would be helpful. Students are expected to have some familiarity with political thought and social science in general. By week 5, students must submit a proposed paper topic to be approved by the instructor. The final paper (approximately 20 pages) will be a thought piece, although it is expected to draw on materials beyond that assigned for the course, and to the extent that it is practicable, such materials should include readings in Chinese or Japanese language.

The following books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore and will also be available on reserve at the Social Science and Humanities Library:

Approximately 3 times during the quarter, each student must present brief précis of one of the recommended readings in the seminar (about 1-1/2 pages for an article and about 3 pages for a book).

In addition to the books ordered at the University Bookstore, students might wish to acquire copies of the following books:


**SCHEDULE OF DISCUSSION TOPICS AND READINGS**

**WEEK 1: WEEK OF JAN 5**

**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 12**

**Required:** The Chinese Historical Setting and the Emergence of Confucianism

**Chan, Source Book,** chaps. 2-3

**Benjamin I. Schwartz, The World of Thought in Ancient China,** chaps. 1-3

**Recommended:**

Lü Zhenyu 吕振羽 *Zhongguo zhengzhi sixiang shi* 中国政治思想史 (Beijing: Shenghuo, Dushu, Xinzhi Sanlian Shudian, 1955), pts. 1, 4


WEEK 3: JAN 19  
Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (I)

Reading:  
Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 4-6

Schwartz, *World of Thought in Ancient China*, chaps. 5, 7

Recommended:


Manyul Im, "Emotional Control and Virtue in the 'Mencius'," *Philosophy East and West* 49.1 (January 1999): 1-27 (Note: has interesting comparisons with Aristotle)


Lü Zhenyu 吕振羽 *Zhongguo zhengzhi sixiang shi* 中国政治思想史 (Beijing: Shenghuo, Dushu, Xinzhi Sanlian Shudian 生活•读书•新知三联书店, 1955), Pt. 5, chap. 1


Tu Wei-ming, *Confucian Thought: Selfhood as Transformation* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1985), chaps. 6, 7

**WEEK 4: JAN 26**  
Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (II) (Daoism, Mohism, Legalism)

**Reading:**  
Chan, Source Book, chaps. 7-10, 12  
Schwartz, *World of Thought in Ancient China*, chaps. 6, 8

**Recommended:**  
Ch’en, *Buddhism in China*, chaps. 8-10  
(Stable URL: [http://www.jstor.org/stable/1400090](http://www.jstor.org/stable/1400090))


Lü Zhenyu 吕振羽 Zhongguo zhengzhi sixiang shi 中国政治思想史 (Beijing: Shenghuo, Dushu, Xinzhi Sanlian Shudian 生活•读书•新知三联书店, 1955), pt. 5, chap. 3


**WEEK 5: WEEK OF FEB 2**  
Paper Proposal Due
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 11, 13
Schwartz, *World of Thought in Ancient China*, chap. 10

Recommended:


WEEK 6: FEB 9 Buddhist Influences in China and Japan

Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 14-16

Recommended:


Paul L. Swanson, *Foundations of T’ien-T’ai Philosophy: The Flowering of the Two
Yoshirō Tamura, Nihon bukkyō shi nyūmon日本仏教史入門（Tokyo: Kakugawa Shoten, Kakugawa sensho 25, 1969), chaps. 3-4


WEEK 7: FEB 16 Indigenous Thought in Ancient Japan and Further Developments of Thought in China

Reading: De Bary, Sources of Japanese Tradition, vol. 1, chaps. 1-3, 5-6 (in both editions)
Chan, chaps. 17-19

Recommended:

Elizabeth Moriarty, "The Communitarian Aspect of Shinto Matsuri," Asian Folklore Studies (published by the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture), 31.2 (1972): 91-140
Mark Teeuwen and Fabio Rambelli, "Introduction: Combinatory Religion and the Honji Suijaku Paradigm in Pre-Modern Japan," pp. 1-53, in Buddhas and
WEEK 8: FEB 23  The Elaboration of Buddhism in India and China

Reading:  *The Lotus Sutra* (trans. Soothill)
           Chen, *Buddhism in China*, chaps. 1-5

Recommended:


WEEK 9: MAR 2  Zen Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism

Reading:  Chan, chaps. 20 and 26
           Ch’en, *Buddhism in China*, chaps. 8-12, 14-16

Recommended:


Peter N. Gregory, ed., *Sudden and Gradual: Approaches to Enlightenment in Chinese Thought* (Honolulu: The Kuroda Institute for the Study of Buddhism and Human Values and the University of Hawai’i Press, 1987)


Robert M. Gimello and Peter N. Gregory, eds., Studies in Ch’an and Huan-yen, (The Kuroda Institute for the Study of Buddhism and Human Values and the University of Hawai’i Press, 1983)
Arthur F. Wright, Buddhism in Chinese History (Stanford, Cal.: Stanford University Press, 1959), selected chapters

WEEK 10: MAR 9 The Great Synthesis: Neo-Confucianism
Readings: Ch’an, chaps. 31 and 32, 34

Recommended:
Tu Wei-ming, Confucian Thought: Selfhood as Transformation (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1985), chaps. 8, 9
Robin Wang, “Zhou Dunyi’s Diagram of the Supreme Ultimate and the

Frederic Wakeman, Jr., *History and Will: Philosophical Perspectives of Mao Tse-tung’s Thought* (Berkeley: University of California, 1973), chap. 16-17 (“Wang Yang-ming”)