

University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
Department of Religious Studies

Course Outline Fall 2013
RELS 359 L01: Introduction to East Asian Religions

Instructor: Katrin Froese
Class Time: TR 2:00-3:15pm SS 012
Office Hours: T 1:00-2:00pm
Telephone: 403-220-3282 or 403-220-5886 (main office)
Email: froese@ucalgary.ca

REQUIRED TEXTS

Confucius: *The Analects*
Mengzi : *Mengzi*
Laozi: *Daodejing*
Xunzi, *Basic Writings of Xunzi (Hsün-tzu)*
Sunzi: *The Art of Warfare*

Additional readings will be provided by the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This course will focus on Chinese religious and philosophical traditions, particularly Confucianism and Daoism. We will be examining primary texts and interpreting their philosophical and religious meaning. In addition, we will be studying some Chinese folk mythology, as well as Daoist religious movements and practice.

Objective: The aim of this course is to provide an overview of the philosophical and religious traditions of Daoism and Confucianism and to develop critical thinking and writing skills.

ASSIGNMENTS

MIDTERM EXAM (ESSAY FORMAT) 40% October 22

FINAL EXAM (IN CLASS) 10% November 28

(Note: You may choose to have the exam for which you receive the highest grade worth 40% and the other exam worth 10%. If your grade is higher for the final, it would then count for 40% and the midterm would count for 40%.

ESSAY 50% (Topics will be handed out in class) Due in class November 21.

In-class exams must be written on the dates specified except in cases of illness, for which you must provide a medical note. 3% a day will be deducted for late papers. Extensions will only be granted in case of illness for which a doctor's note must be provided. Having multiple assignments due during the same time will not be accepted as a reason for extensions. It is your responsibility to plan ahead. Please keep a copy of your term paper on file in addition to the one you hand in. Please also familiarize yourself with the rules on plagiarism attached to this outline. *DO NOT PLAGIARIZE*. I have caught several students almost every year and no excuses will be accepted.

GRADING

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+100 - 96	A	95.9 - 90	A-	89.9 - 85
B+ 84.9 - 80	B	79.9 - 75	B-	74.9 - 70
C+ 69.9 - 65	C	64.9 - 60	C-	59.9 - 55
D+ 54.9 - 53	D	52.9-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to attend class regularly. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to try to obtain lecture material from another student, provided someone is willing to lend out her/his notes. The instructor will not provide notes.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

No electronic devices will be permitted in the classroom. This includes smartphones, cellphones, iPods, iPads and laptops. So please come to class with a pen/pencil and paper. Exceptions will only be made for those students who have disabilities that make it more difficult for them to take notes, in which case a note must be provided from Student Accessibility Services.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than **fourteen (14) days** after the start of the course.

BLACKBOARD HELP

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQs about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>. Instructions for using the Digital Drop Box are available here: http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6_1/student/bbbs_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm.

GNOSIS

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

STUDENT OMBUDSPERSON AND STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINT

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

SAFEWALK

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

(Please note, the schedule may change depending on the nature of class discussion)

September 10 Introduction

Confucius: September 12-19

Text: The Analects

Required Readings: Books 1, 2, 4, 7, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20

Mengzi: September 24-October 1 1A1, 1A7, 2A1, 2A2, 2A6, 3A3, 3A4, 3A15, 4A10, 4B26, 6A 3, 6A6, 6A7, 6A8, 6A10, 7A15, 7A24, 7B1, 7B31

Daodejing: (Whole book) October 3-October 10

Xunzi October 15-29

Chapters 1, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23

Communal Daoism: October 31- November 5

1. Taiping and Celestial Masters

Readings: Communal Organizations: Readings from Livia Kohn "Communal Organizations" (provided by instructor)

Xianger Commentary (excerpt): (provided by instructor)

2. Shangqing Daoism

Readings from Livia Kohn: "The World of Shangqing"

Excerpt from: "The Upper Scripture of Purple Texts Inscribed by the Spirits" (provided by instructor)

Immortals: November 7-14

Laozi

Queen Mother of the West

Mother of the Dao

Eight Immortals

Readings: Livia Kohn, "Laozi: Ancient Philosopher, Master of Longevity and Daoist God"
Anne Birrell: "Queen Mother of the West" (provided by instructor)
Kristofer Schipper: "The Immortals" (provided by instructor)
"How Chang Kuo Lau Obtained a Donkey" (provided by instructor)
"The Dream of Lu Tung Pin" (provided by instructor)

Sunzi November 19-26

Reading: The Art of Warfare Ch. 1-4, 5, 7, 9

December 3-5 Movie: *Hero*. This movie plays on many Confucian and Daoist themes and symbols so your understanding of it will be enhanced by what you have learned so far in this course. A discussion will take place afterwards.