

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Course Outline Fall 2007
RELS 461.02 L01 Advanced Philosophical Daoism**

August 1, 2007

INSTRUCTOR	Katrin Froese
CLASS TIME AND ROOM	R 14:00-16:45
OFFICE/OFFICE HOURS	Rm 1328, R 11:00 - 12:30
TELEPHONE	220-3282
E-MAIL	FROESE@UCALGARY.CA

REQUIRED TEXTS

The following books that are available from the University of Calgary Bookstore are required reading:

The I Ching or Book of Changes, tr. Richard Wilhelm
Tao-Te-Ching, Lao-Tzu, tr. D.C. Lao
The Book of Chuang-Tzu, Chuang-Tzu, tr. Martin Palmer

The Huainanzi (excerpts to be provided by instructor)
Scripture of the Western Ascension (to be provided by instructor)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This course will explore various texts from the philosophical tradition of Daoism. Themes to be addressed include the nature of the Dao, the sage, non-action, nothingness change, mystical awareness, knowledge, Daoist ethics, the cultivation of the self and the ideal ruler.

Objective: The objective of the course is to familiarize students with ways of thinking in the Daoist tradition as well as to enhance critical thinking and essay writing skills.

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

Sample Themes: September 13 Introduction

***The Book of Changes*: September 20-27**

Themes: notion of change
Yin and yang
Trigrams and hexagrams
Qian and kun
Chance
Divination and interpretation

Laozi ***Daodejing*** October 4-11

The *Dao*
De
The sage
Wu-wei
Nothingness
Non=being and being
The feminine
Cultivating the self

The Zhuangzi October 18- November 15

Wandering
Relativity
Scepticism
Knowledge
Language
Detachment

Huainanzi November 22-29

Mutual resonance
Heaven, earth and human beings
Return to origins
The obscure

Scripture of the Western Ascension November 29-December 6

Cosmology
Mind and knowledge
Mystical dimension of language
Qi
Xing (form, body)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class participation and seminar presentation		20%
First Paper	<u>Due in class</u> (10-15 pages) October 23	40%
Take home exam	<u>Due in class November 27</u>	40%

* *There will be no Registrar Scheduled Final Exam for this course*

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Late papers will be marked down at a rate of 2% per day. Extensions will only be granted under exceptional circumstances and must be accompanied by proper documentation (i.e. medical certificate etc.). Computer breakdown is not a valid reason for an extension. Students are expected to make back-up copies of all their assignments.

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 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity; see relevant pages in the current University Calendar

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>.