



POLITICAL SCIENCE 113B
CHINESE AND JAPANESE POLITICAL THOUGHT (I)
University of California, San Diego
Section 732916
Dr. G. A. Hoston
Winter 2012

Class Meetings: M 5:00-7:50 p.m. Office: 376 Social Science Bldg.
Peterson Hall 104 Tel: 858-449-0455
Office Hours: Tu 3:00-4:30 p.m. E-mail: gghoston@ucsd.edu
and by appointment <http://www.germainehoston.com>¹

TA and Office:

Group E-Mail: poli113b2012@yahoogroups.com

Class Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/poli113b2012>

To subscribe to course website, send email from your primary email address to:
poli113b2012-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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 (see page 4 of this syllabus). 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. A brief midterm written assignment will be due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, February 13th. The take-home final examination distributed in advance will be due in the TA's office on Monday, March 19, 2012 between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

¹ A PDF version of this syllabus is also available at <http://www.germainehoston.com/courses.htm> on the Yahoo Group site.

Dr. Hoston holds regular office hours to give students an opportunity to discuss issues concerning the course and other matters with respect to their career plans with the professor. In addition, the Teaching Assistant also holds regular office hours to discuss the course material, assignments, and exams. Many times such discussions outside the classroom can be even more valuable than regular class time for the student. Professor Hoston is also available to meet with students on other occasions, such as over a snack or light meal. Please contact her at her e-mail address above any time to arrange alternative meeting times.

Finally, to facilitate discussions and to offer an opportunity to discuss course material outside the classroom, an online discussion group has been established. On the first day of class, you will be given your first assignment: to subscribe to the online discussion group by sending an e-mail to poli113b2012-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Since the class is a large one, you are encouraged to supplement opportunities to participate in class discussions by participating actively in the on-line group. This is an ideal opportunity for you to participate if you happen to be shy speaking in front of a group. The group site will also be used by the instructors and students to organize review sessions and study groups, exchange ideas on and suggestions about the midterm written assignment and final examination, and generally to facilitate the learning process.

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.

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:

- Wing-tsit Chan, trans. and comp., *A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1969), paper, ISBN 0-691-21964-9
- Wm Theodore de Bary, *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, vol. 1, 2nd ed. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001), paper, ISBN 0-231-12139-3
- William Soothill, trans., *The Lotus of the Wonderful Law, or The Lotus Gospel* (New York: RoutledgeCurzon, 1993), paper, ISBN 0-7007-0198-2

SCHEDULE OF DISCUSSION TOPICS AND READINGS

WEEK 1:	WEEK OF JAN 9	Course Introduction. What is Political Philosophy? The Notion of the "Political", Legitimacy, and Comparative Political Thought
	Reading:	Chan, <i>Source Book</i> , chap. 1
WEEK 2:	JAN 16	[No Class Meeting: Martin Luther King Day] The Chinese Historical Setting and the Emergence of Confucianism

- Reading:** Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 2-3
- WEEK 3:** **JAN 23** **Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (I)**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 4-6
- WEEK 4:** **JAN 30** **Confucianism and its Contenders: The Problem of Human Nature (II) (Daoism, Mohism, Legalism)**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 7-10, 12
- WEEK 5:** **FEB 6** **The Yin-Yang School and the Book of Change (*Yijing*)**
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 11, 13
- WEEK 6:** **FEB 13** **WEEK OF FEB 13 MIDTERM WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE ON MON., FEB 13 IN PETERSON HALL 104 NO LATER THAN 5:10 P.M.**
Buddhist Influences in China and Japan
Reading: Chan, *Source Book*, chaps. 14-16
- WEEK 7:** **FEB 20** **[No Class Meeting: President's Day]**
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
- WEEK 8:** **FEB 27** **The Elaboration of Buddhism in India and China**
Reading: *The Lotus Sutra* (trans. Soothill)
- WEEK 9:** **MAR 5** **Zen Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism**
Reading: Chan, chaps. 20 and 26
De Bary, *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, I: chaps. 7, 10, 13 (chap. 11 in the 1st ed.), and 14 (chap. 12 in the 1st ed.)
- WEEK 10:** **MAR 12** **Conclusions and Review Session**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

All students are expected to attend every class meeting prepared to participate actively and constructively in class discussion.² The class participation component of the course grade will be based on such participation in all sessions. The formula that will determine the final grade is as follows:

Class attendance and participation:	30%
Midterm written assignment:	30%
Final take-home examination:	40%

² The exception to this rule is in case of illness. If you are ill, please do not come to class and expose others to your illness. When you have recovered, simply bring a doctor's note to verify your illness. If you anticipate missing class for some other reason, please notify the instructor in advance by telephone or e-mail.