

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	CC2C19/CC2C19P
Subject Title	Readings in Confucian Classics: <i>The Four Books</i> 儒家經典導讀：《四書》
Credit Value	3
Level	2
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Exclusion subjects for CC2C19: CC2C19P, CC203, CC316 and CC316P Exclusion subjects for CC2C19P: CC2C19, CC203, CC316 and CC316P
Objectives	<p>This subject introduces students to the Confucian Four Books that constitute the corner stone of the intellectual foundation of China. Through the study of these classics, students will understand the nature of ethical and social relations advocated by ancient Chinese philosophers that remain influential in modern times. They will also comprehend the relevance of this resilient school of thought in the global age. In addition to learning the wisdom contained in these books, students will also learn to appreciate the beauty of classical Chinese language.</p>
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">gain an understanding of the basic philosophical assumptions and ethical views of the Confucian school of thoughtobtain a comprehensive knowledge of the values and ideals educated Chinese cherished in the pastunderstand why Confucianism has been the mainstream thought in Chinese historyidentify the impact of Confucian ideas on present-day societygenerate ideas to better the self and society with reference to Confucian preceptsfulfill the Chinese Reading and Writing Requirements in Chinese session

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The <i>Four Books</i> in Chinese history and culture 2) Conceptual programs for a peaceful world 3) Aspiration and education of a gentleman 4) Value and ways of learning 5) Sense of humanity and humaneness 6) Human nature and nourishment of the mind-and-heart 7) Rites and rituals in personal cultivation and social life 8) Proper manifestation of human relationships 9) Propriety in governing and handling public affairs 10) Contemporary relevance of Confucian teachings to self and society 						
Teaching/Learning Methodology	<p>Discussion and debate of classical ideas and precepts against contemporary moral issues and ethical expressions will be engaged throughout the course to motivate the students to formulate a response to issues concerning their life and living environment.</p> <p>Students will read annotated topical texts assigned before class. Teacher in lecture will make sure basic textual understanding is achieved and then expound his/her reading of the texts and compare notes with students. Selected students in each lecture will do short presentations of classical expressions of their choosing for wider classroom discussion.</p> <p>Periodic quizzes on the meaning or background of classical terms as well as their use in set contexts will be conducted to ensure students' understanding of the text and their ability to apply what is learned.</p> <p>For the tutorial class, students will read assigned and/or self-selected writings on contemporary issues and discuss them in terms of the ideas and propositions found in the classic texts they have learned in the lectures. Their discussions will be turned into short papers for further comments by teacher and classmates. These papers will then be developed into full term papers.</p>						
Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="513 1728 773 1866">Specific assessment methods/tasks</td> <td data-bbox="781 1717 938 1877"> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="789 1728 930 1866">% weighting</td> <td data-bbox="938 1717 1328 1877"> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="946 1728 1320 1866">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</td> <td data-bbox="1328 1717 1445 1877"></td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="789 1728 930 1866">% weighting</td> <td data-bbox="938 1717 1328 1877"> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="946 1728 1320 1866">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</td> <td data-bbox="1328 1717 1445 1877"></td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table>	% weighting	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="946 1728 1320 1866">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</td> <td data-bbox="1328 1717 1445 1877"></td> </tr> </table>	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)	
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		a	b	c	d	e	f
	1. Mid-term quiz	15%	v	v			v
	2. Term-end quiz	15%			v	v	v
	3. Tutorial presentation	30%	v	v	v	v	
	4. Term paper	40%	v	v		v	v
	Total	100 %					
Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:						
	▪ Lectures						26 Hrs.
	▪ Tutorials						13 Hrs.
	▪						
	Other student study effort:						
	▪ Reading						42 Hrs.
	▪ Discussion						6 Hrs.
	▪ Writing						36 Hrs.
	Total student study effort						
Reading List and References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (CR) (宋) 朱熹：《四書章句集注》，北京：中華書局，1983年。 2. (CR) 楊伯峻：《論語譯注》，北京：中華書局，1980年。 3. (CR) 楊伯峻：《孟子譯注》，北京：中華書局，1960年。 4. (CR) 王文錦：《禮記譯解》，北京：中華書局，2001年。 5. 黃錦鉉等：《四書導讀》，臺北：文津出版社，1987年。 6. 李申：《四書集注全釋》，成都：巴蜀書社，2002年。 7. 錢穆：《四書釋義》，臺北：聯經出版事業公司，1994年。 8. 錢穆：《朱子學提綱》，臺北：三民書局，1971年。 9. 李零：《去聖乃得真孔子：〈論語〉縱橫讀》，北京：生活·讀 						

書·新知三聯出版社，2008年。

10. 夏傳才：《論語講座》，桂林：廣西師範大學出版社，2007年。
11. 來可泓：《論語直解》，上海：復旦大學出版社，1996年。
12. 楊伯峻：《孟子導讀》，北京：中國國際廣播出版社，2008年。
13. 徐洪興：《〈孟子〉精讀》，上海：復旦大學出版社，2010年。
14. Ames, Roger T. and Henry Rosemont, Jr. *The analects of Confucius: a philosophical translation*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1999.
15. Gardner, Daniel K. *The Four Books: The Basic Teachings of the Later Confucian Tradition*. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co., 2007.
16. Nylan, Michael and Thomas Wilson. *Lives of Confucius: Civilization's Greatest Sage through the Ages*. New York: Doubleday, 2010.