The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Philosophy
2024-25 Term 2

PHIL5180/ PHIL7180
Special Seminar on Selected Philosophical Issues

Course Outline

Teacher: Prof. Shun Kwong-loi
Time: Fridays 2:30 - 5:15 pm
<mark>**Venue: Y C Liang Hall G06 (LHC_G06)**</mark>

Readings

Required and recommended readings include a number of articles and book chapters.
Depending on the nature of the final paper, one will likely also need to consult the relevant
classical Chinese texts.

Articles and book chapters by the instructor are all available, in pre-print form, on the
instructor's webpage at https://www.klshun.com/

For articles and book chapters by other authors, and for classical Chinese texts (as needed),
please consult the library's electronic resources.

1st session (7 February 2025) – Methodological Issues in the Study of Chinese Thought

Required Reading:

(Shun) "Studying Confucian and Comparative Ethics: Methodological Reflections," *Journal
of Chinese Philosophy*, 36:3 (September 2009), 455-478.
(Shun) "The Primacy of Practice and the Centrality of Outlook," in Panayiota Vassilopoulou
& Daniel Whistler eds. *Thought: A Philosophical History*, London & New York:
Routledge (2021): 21-35. **Sections 1-3.**

Recommended Reading:

(Shun) "Methodological Reflections on the Study of Chinese Thought," in Tan, Sor-hoon, ed.
Bloomsbury Research Handbook on Methodology in Chinese Philosophy
(Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016): 57-74.
(Shun) "Studying Confucian Ethics from the Inside Out," *Dao* 15:4 (Dec 2016): 511-532.

2nd session (14 February 2025) – *Ren* 仁 and Compassion

Required Reading:

(Shun) "Zhu Xi and the Idea of One Body," in Ng, Kai-chiu & Huang, Yong eds. *Dao
Companion to the Zhu Xi's Philosophy*, New York: Springer (2020): 389-444.

Section 2 (especially sub-sections 2.1, 2.5); Section 4 (especially sub-sections 4.1, 4.2).

Recommended Reading:

David E. Cartwright "Compassion and Solidarity with Sufferers: The Metaphysics of *Mitleid*," *European Journal of Philosophy* 16:2 (2008), pp. 292-310.
Stephen Darwall "Empathy, Sympathy, Care," *Philosophical Studies* 89:2-3 (March 1998), pp. 261-282.

3rd session (21 February 2025) -- *Yi* 義 and Anger

Required reading:

(Shun) "On Anger – An Essay in Confucian Moral Psychology," David Jones & He Jinli, eds., *Returning to Zhu Xi: Emerging Patterns within the Supreme Polarity* (State University of New York Press, 2015): 299-324.

Recommended readings:

Jeffrie G. Murphy "Forgiveness and Resentment," in Jeffrie G. Murphy & Jean Hampton *Forgiveness and Mercy* (Cambridge University Press, 1988), chapter 1, pp. 14-34.
Jean Hampton "Forgiveness, Resentment and Hatred," in Jeffrie G. Murphy & Jean Hampton *Forgiveness and Mercy* (Cambridge University Press, 1988), chapter 2, sections 1-3, pp. 35-60.
Christopher Bennett "Personal and Redemptive Forgiveness," *European Journal of Philosophy* 11:2 (2003), pp. 127-144.

(Shun) "Resentment and Forgiveness in Confucian Thought," *Journal of East-West Thought* 4:4 (December 2014), 13-35.

4th session (28 February 2025) – Modes of Ethical Reflection

Required reading:

(Shun) "Anger, Compassion, and the Distinction between First and Third Person," *Australasian Philosophical Review*, 5:4 (2021): 327-343.
(Shun) "Ethical Practitioners and Intellectual Commentators – Response to Commentators," *Australasian Philosophical Review*, 5:4 (2021) 418-430. **Sections 1, 2, 5.**

Recommended readings:

(Shun) "On the Idea of 'No Self'," Presidential Address delivered at the 92nd Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in 2018, *Proceedings and Addresses of the American Philosophical Association* 92 (Nov 2018): 78-107.

Requirements:

The work for the course consists of the required readings, participation in classroom discussion, and submission of a final paper, to be written (i) on a topic within the scope of the course content, (ii) after discussion of topic with instructor, and (iii) without use of AI.

Grade Descriptors:
Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Contact:
Name: Prof. Shun Kwong-loi
Email: kls.berkeley@gmail.com

Teaching Assistant:
Name: Zhang Qian
Email: 1155202712@link.cuhk.edu.hk

Academic honesty and plagiarism
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at

http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessment

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Use of generative AI tools

Approach 1 - All use of AI tools is prohibited in assignments and assessment.