

HIS 295 History of Asian Thought

M, W, F, 01:00 ó 01:50 pm

Prof. Weiwei Luo

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Office hours in Mears 312: M,W,TH. 2-3pm, and by appointment

Course description

87-89% B+

77-79% C+

below 60% F

Class Policies

Laptop policy:

Great news! Following exceptions:

- 1) Laptops are allowed during **lectures** for note-taking purposes.
- 2) Great news! If you have good reasons to use laptops during **discussions**, please come to talk to me at the beginning of the class. Otherwise, please put laptops away during discussions.
- 3) Even if you have my approval to use a laptop in the course, if I find that you are using it in ways that are distracting for you or the class I will ask you to put it away.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you need and want accommodations in this class, please contact Autumn Wilke, in Academic Advising (wilkeaut@grinnell.edu, (641) 269-3124, 311-C Joe Rosenfield '25 Center). She will work with you to specify the accommodations and give you a letter outlining these for me. This process ensures your equal participation in the class while protecting your privacy. If your access needs have already been specified, please provide me with the letter.

Mandatory meetings with the instructor:

Please sign up to meet with me during the first 2 weeks of the semester, so I can get to know your individual interests and needs (<https://doodle.com/poll/xabhe9eg38fiuzwp>).

Religious holidays:

Grinnell College offers alternative options to complete academic work for students who observe holy days. Please contact me within the first 2 weeks of the semester if you ETT/Fu/F1 12 Tf1 0 0 1 72 612G[(G

Study tips:

There are many ways to read a text; even a single method of reading will generate multiple meanings for different readers. When doing the readings for this class, it is helpful to always hold a few questions in your mind (like the ones I give at the end of each class.) Having a set of focusing questions is like viewing the night sky with a telescope; it puts you in control of the relationship between the object viewed and your field of vision, giving you a sense of mastery over the text. While reading, take notes within the book/article as well as writing out more detailed notes by hand. On the day of the meeting, it is helpful to reread the notes and parts of the text to refresh your memory. Everything in this course is cumulative, meaning that you will have difficulty understanding the texts later in the semester if you have not kept pace with the syllabus. So do not skip any of the reading assignments and read everything on time.

Course Schedule
Online readings marked by @

Date	Topic	Assignments
8/31 F	Krishna and the A-Bomb: Why Study the History of Asian Thought?	Syllabus @
9/3 M	ōGcuygtpö"xu0ōY guvgtpö"ercuukeu	J.M. Coetzee @
9/5 W	How to read a text? Guided sample reading	Quentin Skinner @
9/7 F	Human and universe in Vedic thought	The Rig Veda @ ōVedic thoughtö @ ōQtki kpu"qh'Gzkvrgpegö"B
9/10 M	The search for Atman	Upanishads @ im -45 (s)-2 ()TJ1 0 0 14635.031 96429 Tm[(; st)-2

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9/24 M	Justice of the holy man	Siddhartha, pp. 87-152 Concept memo 1
9/26 W	Why enlightenment? <i>[in-class exercise: mindful communication]</i>	Dhammapada @; ðVj g'Ctv' qh'Ego o wplecvi ö'B
9/28 F	<i>Workshop for concept memo 1</i>	Review and annotate your ercuo cvguø'o go q'drafts. Please bring them to class.
10/1 M	Eqphwekwu'cpf "yj g'ci g'qh'ör qy gt" eqpuwncpüö	Cpcrgeu. "ökpvtqf wekqpö
10/3 W	Confucian view of human relationships <i>[in-class exercise: -if rituals]</i>	Analects, books 1-4
10/5 F	Benevolence, humaneness, and governance	Analects, books 5-13
10/8 M	Heaven, earth, and human	Analects, books 14-20

11/2 F	Universal love and õsprouts of democracyö	Mozi @
11/5 M	Legalism and the rise of the state	Han Feizi@ Concept memo 3
11/7 W	Review session: key concepts in classical Asia Overview: transmission and	Quentin Skinner @

