

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 11

Title: INTRO TO ASIAN PHIL

Full Title: Introduction to Asian Philosophy

Last Reviewed: 12/12/2022

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

Catalog Description:
Students will examine major ideas in Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and possibly other Asian philosophies. The course compares these views with basic tenets of Western philosophy, exploring perspectives on the nature of existence, human destiny, ethics, and socio-political obligation.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Students will examine major ideas in Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and possibly other Asian philosophies. The course compares these views with basic tenets of Western philosophy, exploring perspectives on the nature of existence, human destiny, ethics, and socio-political obligation. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities		Fall 2003	
	H	Global Perspective and Environmental Literacy			
CSU GE:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities		Fall 2003	
IGETC:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities		Fall 2003	
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:	
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:	

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Articulate key concepts from the Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and/or other Asian philosophies covered in class.
2. Compare Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and/or other Asian philosophies with each other and with Western philosophy.
3. Critically evaluate Indian, Chinese, Japanese and/or other Asian philosophies.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Articulate examples of the historical diversity among the major philosophical schools of Asia, specifying their individual integrity in ancient thought.
2. Analyze commonalities among different philosophies of Asia in their later development.
3. Distinguish influences of Asian thought on Western ideas and vice versa.
4. Evaluate the influence of a Western philosophical framework on the appraisal of Asian philosophies, particularly as these are constrained by English translation of Asian philosophical material.
5. Identify examples of how specific Asian philosophies have influenced relevant religious traditions.
6. Identify examples of the mutual influence of different Asian philosophies.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Fundamental Perennial Issues in Western Philosophy and Eastern Philosophy

- II. Key problems, Limitations of Translation, and Challenges Attending a Western Study of Asian Worldviews
- III. Comparison of Interpretations that Arise in Translations of Classic Texts
- IV. Key Concepts and Textual Analysis of the Philosophy of Ancient India
 - A. Vedas and Upanishads
 - B. Bhagavad Gita
 - C. Samkhya-Yoga and Advaita Vedanta
- V. Key Concepts and Textual Analysis of Buddhist Philosophy
 - A. Issues of early Buddhism as revealed in the Sutta Pitaka
 - B. Buddhist psychology of mind
- VI. Reciprocal Influence of Upanishadic Philosophy on Buddhism and Vice Versa
- VII. Key Concepts and Textual Analysis of the Philosophies of Ancient China, Highlighting the Interplay of Taoist and Confucian Philosophies Throughout Chinese Philosophical History
 - A. Tao Te Ching
 - B. Chuangzi
 - C. Five-Phases School and Chinese Cosmology
 - D. Confucian Analects
 - E. Mencius and Mozi
- VIII. Key Concepts of Japanese Philosophy
 - A. Nationalism
 - B. Primacy of aesthetics
 - C. Mind-body mastery
 - D. Influence of Buddhism
 - E. Uniqueness of Zen philosophy

If time permits, other topics may include:

- IX. Issues in Madhaymika vs. Yogacara Buddhist Philosophies
- X. I Ching
- XI. Developments in Neo-Confucian Philosophy
- XII. The Philosophy of Mao
- XIII. Confucian and Western Influences in the Modern Chinese Democracy Movement
- XIV. Tibetan Buddhism
- XV. Key Concepts of Modern Indian Thought, Including Their Influence on Western Views
 - A. Gandhi
 - B. Radhakrishnan
 - C. Yogananda
 - D. Krishnamurti

Assignment:

1. Readings from course text and supplementary materials (10-30 pages per week)
 2. Weekly journal entries
 3. Weekly quizzes on assigned readings, lectures, and/or video material
 4. Exam(s)
 5. Final examination (multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay) sections
 6. Short essays (500-800 words) examining various aspects of Asian philosophy
 7. Research project and written essay (800-1800 words) on a comparative theme, focusing on specific aspects of both Asian and Western philosophies
- Note: Papers may be assigned instead of one or more exams

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Weekly journal entries; weekly quizzes; short essays; research project and written essay

Writing
20 - 80%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving
0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes; exams

Exams
20 - 80%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category
0 - 0%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Any translation of the Tao Te Ching; a representative example is Tao Te Ching, translated by Gia-Fu Feng & Jane English, Vintage Books, NY 2012 (classic).

Any translation of the Analects of Confucius; a rep. example is Confucius: The Analects, translated by D.C. Lau, Penguin Books, 1979 (classic).

Any translation of the Bhagavad Gita; a rep. example is Bhagavad Gita. translated by P. Lal, Roli Books, New Delhi, 2004 (classic).

General comprehensive texts:
Asian Philosophies by John M. Koller (6th Edition) Pearson, 2011 (classic).

Philosophic Classics:
Asian Philosophy, Volume VI, by Forrest E. Baird, Raeburne S. Heimbeck Emeritus, Pearson, 2005 (classic).
The Upanishads. translated by Eknath Easwaran. The Blue Mountain Center of Meditation, 1897, 2007 (classic).

Wisdom of the Buddha:
The Unabridged Dhammapadam. translated by F. Max Muller. Dover, 2000 (classic).

