HUMA 5800 Fundamentals of Chinese Philosophy [C][PU]
Division of Humanities
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Fall 2023
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Course Description:
This course is designed to guide students to in-depth researches into Chinese philosophy. Through a selection and discussion of the works of some representative thinkers in different historical periods of China, some of the important issues in Chinese philosophy will be explored.

Tentative Schedule of Seminars:
Weeks 1 Introduction
2 Pre-Ch’in period: Mencius-The Book of Mencius, Book 6, part 1.
4 Western Han period: Tung Chung-shu- “The Profound Examination of Names and Appellations” in Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn Annals.
6 Wei-Chin period: Wang Pi- Commentary on the Lao Tzu.
7 Wei-Chin period: Kuo Hsiang- Commentary on the Chuang Tzu.
8 Sui period: Chi-tsang- Profound Meaning of the Three Treatises;
9 Tang period: Fa-tsang- “Treatise on the Golden Lion”.
10 Tang period: Hui-neng- The Platform Scripture.
11 Sung period: Chu Hsi- Records of conversations and writings.
12 Ming period: Wang Yang-ming- “Inquiry on the Great Learning” and Instructions for Practical Living.
13 Ch’ing period: Tai Chen- Commentary on the Meanings of Terms in the Book of Mencius.

Course Evaluation:
End-of-term paper 70%
Presentation 20%
Attendance 10%

Intended Learning Outcomes:
After taking the course, students will:
1. Gain an overview of Chinese philosophy, discovering how Chinese philosophers make sense of the universe in which they live, how they position themselves both as individuals and as members of the society, and what ideals are they committed to, on both personal and societal levels.
2. Familiarize themselves with both the primary and secondary sources fundamental to the study of Chinese philosophy.
3. Strengthen their ability to present their points of view and comment on those of others in front of an audience.
4. Learn how to think critically when conducting their research on the subjects they choose and to write professionally when delivering their findings.

**Basic Texts:**

