

Course number		U-LAS06 10017 LE42					
Course title (and course title in English)		Political Science II-E2 Political Science II-E2		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation		Center for Southeast Asian Studies Associate Professor,TANGSEEFA , Decha	
Group	Humanities and Social Sciences		Field(Classification)		Jurisprudence, Politics and Economics(Foundations)		
Language of instruction	English		Old group	Group A		Number of credits	2
Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Lecture (Face-to-face course)		Year/semesters	2025 • Second semester	
Days and periods	Wed.3		Target year	All students		Eligible students	For all majors
[Overview and purpose of the course]							
<p>Introduction</p> <p>For this academic year, both Political Science I and II will be focusing on the political philosophy subfield. This subfield deals with perennial questions and basic problems in politics, which must continuously be examined and inquired, even though most members of political societies often consider them settled and no further arguments needed. Such questions, for example, are: What is a good life? What is a good political society? What is justice? What is power?</p> <p>Toward the end of Political Science I and II, hopefully, students will: a) possess basic understanding of political philosophy, and will employ such knowledge as a guide to probe more deeply and sophisticatedly on the intertwining relations of three notions: youth, education and utopia; b) realize that the two introductory courses are very crucial not only for their quotidian lives, but also for each as a member of a political society as well as an earthling on this delicate yet fragile earth.</p> <p>Issue and Approach</p> <p>In general, the introduction to political philosophy taught in many countries has been dominated by the body of knowledge that only follows various traditions of the so-called “ western worlds. ” Hence, any attempts to discern basic political problems have predominantly been influenced by such traditions from such worlds. I myself have, to a large degree, been influenced by those traditions, too. Nonetheless, in order for our journey throughout this year to be broader, I have also chosen a few philosophical texts from some traditions of the “ eastern worlds. ” With limited time, however, we will be focusing only on two of the most important strands of the so-called “ Chinese civilization ” : classical Confucianism and classical Daoism. Altogether for this academic year, there will be three sets of issues:</p> <p>Part 1: Love of Wisdom: An Answer for “ What is Philosophy? ”</p> <p>Part 2: A Perspective on “ Utopia ” : Plato ’ s Republic</p> <p>Part 3: Human Togetherness (?): Be(com)ing Humans, How should humans be?, and “ The Political ”</p> <p>3.1 A Confucian View</p> <p>3.2 Two Daoist Views</p> <p>3.3 Social Contract Philosophies</p>							
<div style="text-align: right;">Continue to Political Science II-E2(2)</div>							

Political Science II-E2(2)

[Course objectives]

The two courses aim to enable students:

- To understand some traditions of political philosophy at the introductory level;
- To understand certain views of political philosophy regarding youth, education, and utopia;
- To pay attention, to think and to question our quotidian lives' surroundings by employing perspectives from political philosophy.

[Course schedule and contents]

Week 1:

- Introduction and Course Queries

Part 3: Human Togetherness (?):

Be(com)ing Humans, How should humans be?, and “ the Political ”

Part 3.1: A Confucian View

Week 2:

- Classical Chinese Philosophy: An Introduction (1)

Week 3:

- Classical Chinese Philosophy: An Introduction (2)

Week 4:

- Reading The Analects of Confucius (1)

Week 5:

- Reading The Analects of Confucius (2)

Part 3.2: Two Daoist Views

Week 6:

- Correlative Cosmology (1)

Week 7:

- Correlative Cosmology (2)

Week 8:

- Reading The Dao De Jing (1)

Week 9:

- Reading The Dao De Jing (2)

Week 10:

- Reading Chuang Tzu

Part 3.3: Social Contract Philosophies

Week 11:

- The Social Contract (1): Thomas Hobbes

Week 12:

- The Social Contract (2): John Locke

Week 13:

- The Social Contract (3): Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Week 14:

- Course Summary

Week 15:

- Feedback Session

Continue to Political Science II-E2(3)

Political Science II-E2(3)

[Course requirements]

1) This course will only accept students who have the TOEFL ITP score of at least 525 (the full score is 677). (For more information on how to convert the score, among others, see: https://capman.es/sites/default/files/toefl_itp_official_score_report_soloinformativo.pdf)

2) Students who plan to take more than 17 courses this semester are not eligible to take this course.

[Evaluation methods and policy]

There are NO exams in this course.

By midnight of every Sunday (from the first until the twelve week), students will submit their homework: typewritten and not more than one page (A4).

Each week's assignment weights 10%. Throughout the semester, there will be 12 assignments, but each student's 10 best results will be used to calculate that student's final grade.

[Textbooks]

1) Ames, Roger T. and David L. Hall. 2003. Dao De Jing -- " Making This Life Significant " : A Philosophical Translation. Roger T. Ames and New York: Ballantine Books.

2) Chuang Tzu. 1996. Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings. Burton Watson (trans.). New York: Columbia University Press.

3) Confucius. 1998. The Analects of Confucius: A Philosophical Translation. Roger T. Ames & Henry Rosemont, Jr. (trans.). New York: Ballantine Books.

4) Hobbes, Thomas. 1990. " In Defense of Dictatorship [from Leviathan]. " In Philosophy: Paradox and Discovery. Minton, A.J. & Shipka, T.A. (eds.). New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc., 3rd edition. Pp. 484-493.

5) Locke, John. 1995. " The Second Treatise of Civil Government. " In The Portable Enlightenment Reader. Isaac Kramnick (ed. w/ and Intro.). New York: Penguin Books. Pp. 395-404.

6) Pangle, Thomas L. and Timothy W. Burns. 2015. The Key Texts of Political Philosophy: An Introduction. New York: Cambridge University Press.

7) Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. 1995. " The Social Contract. " In The Portable Enlightenment Reader. Isaac Kramnick (ed. w/ and Intro.). New York: Penguin Books. Pp. 430-441.

(Related URL)

https://onlinemovie.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/movie_decha.html

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

This is a self-learning course. Students will study each week's prepared PowerPoint slides as well as reading assignments before meeting the instructor online. After studying both the slides and the reading assignments, students will answer questions prepared by the instructor, then submit the answers by midnight of each Sunday. During each online session, we will be discussing students' answers, as a way of solidifying your knowledge.

Continue to Political Science II-E2(4)

Political Science II-E2(4)

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Consultations can be arranged as needed.

[Essential courses]