



香港浸會大學
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Hong Kong Baptist University
Department of Religion and Philosophy

BA (Hons) in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

宗教、哲學及倫理文學士(榮譽)學位課程

JUPAS Programme Code: JS2025

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Why Choose Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) at HKBU?

First Ever RPE Programme in Asia for the World

The programme, specializing in three different but closely related disciplines of religion, philosophy and ethics, is the first-of-its-kind not only in Hong Kong, but also in Asia. RPE is a multidisciplinary programme and in fact one of the flourishing programmes in the international trend in recent decades. Examples include the RPE programme in King' s College London and University of Nottingham in UK.

Four Study Areas

Foundational courses covering key areas of religion, philosophy and ethics are covered in second year. Starting from third to fourth years, students can choose major electives among the four study areas, namely Philosophical Studies, Christian Studies and Comparative Religion, The Interdisciplinary Study of Religion, as well as Ethics and Society. The multiple foci of the programme would be able to cater for the diverse interests of students. Students can choose to declare or not a concentration in one of the four study areas at the end of their second year of study.

Excellence in Liberal Arts Education

Our programme provides a channel for achieving the higher goals of Liberal Arts Education, namely, (a) the cultivation of the ability to analyze complex human problems with intellectual rigor, and (b) the cultivation of practical wisdom for moral reasoning and impartial value analysis.

Critical Thinking

We emphasize nurturing students' abilities in critical thinking, justifying arguments and evaluating claims, which help to enhance their reasoning and analyzing skills. These are transferable skills which are essential to many professions.

Value Analysis

We emphasize the analysis of underlying moral values, social values, political values and cultural values in current issues, which are diverse, complex and often in conflict with one another.

Excellent Career Opportunity

Graduates can choose a career not only in teaching Ethics and Religious Studies (after obtaining PGDE/ DipEd from a qualified tertiary institution), but also in cultural affairs, publication business, religion-related social service agencies, administration of the civil service and the business sector.



Importance of Studying RPE

Religion, philosophy and ethics have always been closely related. Religious traditions play an important role in shaping the way that we approach questions like, 'what does it mean to be human?' or 'what is justice?' and philosophers have had an influence on the development of religious and ethical thought throughout history. This course will introduce you to some of the most important topics in these areas, and give you a full understanding of their interaction historically and in contemporary contexts.

Our courses relate these systems and traditions to topical and emerging issues in the contemporary world: gender, environment, cultural identity, violence and peace, global politics and political issues, etc. The course is dynamic, staying up-to-date with changing religious and philosophical thinking, and the context in which these changes takes place. It demands, and helps you to develop, rigorous and systematic thinking.

The liberal arts have always had a twofold task: To help human beings fulfill their potential and better understand their existence; and to prepare them for a lifetime of work, personal exploration, and engagement in their communities and culture. The nurturing of human maturity and of participation in the life of the community - as well as good citizenship - are some of the most important attributes we seek of HKBU graduates.

The study of ethics in relation to social issues, religious beliefs and practices, and fundamental philosophical perspectives on the world is one exceptional way to accomplish these liberal arts goals, and help students develop a critical understanding of and concern for the contemporary society. Our new program is not confined to theoretical ethical reflection, but will also provide practical involvement in some service learning course in our Ethics and Society study area.

Hong Kong is a modern society. Modernity has been uncritically taken as the only norm of behavior and it is universal. Modern people seem to think that all human being experience the world and ourselves in the exactly the same way we understand the world and ourselves. Modern science has achieved a status of religion which was monopolized by religions in traditional societies. Our programme provides intellectual skills and knowledge as well as critical thinking methods to help our students to review our culture and modern experiences – putting religion and science into constructive dialogues. With the rapid developments in material culture and the expanding vacuum in ethical guidance and meaningful worldview in the Mainland, Hong Kong society and our programme can definitely play an active role in providing thoughtful perspectives, critical mindset as well as well-equipped personnel for the needs of the society.

Strengths of Our Department

Integration of Research and Teaching

Our faculty members are dedicated to teaching. We emphasize dialogical approaches and in-class discussions. Professors draw on students' living environment and their shared experiences in illustrating concepts. We utilize the full range of teaching tools like films, the Moodle (or similar systems), and the Wisenews. We also organize field trips and visits to religious sites and activities.

Our faculty members actively engage in research and have won a number of external research grants and awards. Research is supported by the Centre for Applied Ethics and the Centre for Sino-Christian Studies. The integration of research and teaching will benefit both arenas, and improve the quality of the students' learning experience.

A Strong Team of Professors

All the professors of our Department received their academic training in major international and local universities. They are solid and active researchers of diverse fields in religious studies and philosophy. Our faculty has an excellent track record in publications in international refereed journals and books.

Rich Exposure

Consistent with our emphasis on Whole Person Education, we organize extracurricular learning activities to expand students' exposure. For instance, internship programmes have introduced students to the job world; student overseas exchange programmes enable them to travel to various countries; and study tours inspire appreciation of various sites.

Warm Atmosphere and Good Student-Teacher Relationship

Our department values good relationship between students and teachers, and has organized activities to foster student-teacher relationship, such as family gatherings during major festivals, the annual High Table Dinner, reading group, study group, mentoring activities etc.

Integration of Academic Study and Social Service/ Participation

Our faculty members are actively involved in various kinds of professional and community service, and social issues, such as writing columns in newspapers, participating in debates on social issues. These involvements of the faculty members keep the classroom discussions lively and up-to-date.



B.A. (Hons.) in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

JUPAS Programme Code : JS2025

This innovative programme provides an excellent opportunity to study major religious traditions of the world and major schools of philosophy and ethical thought in an objective and critical way. Students will develop the capability in correlating religious ideas and values, philosophical traditions, and schools of ethical thought to contemporary socio-cultural problems. They can understand more about the human person itself and human culture through a comparative and interdisciplinary study of different religious and philosophical traditions, showing the range of how human beings respond themselves to various life problems, such as life and death, from ancient times to the contemporary world.

Admission Requirements

The general entrance requirements (GERs) for JUPAS admissions with effect from 2024 entry are stipulated as follows:

HKDSE Core Subjects				HKDSE Elective Subjects	
English Language	Chinese Language	Mathematics	Citizenship and Social Development	Elective 1	Elective 2
LEVEL 3		LEVEL 2	Attained#	LEVEL 3	

"Attained" in Citizenship and Social Development will not be included in the admission score calculation.

Remarks:

1. One of the elective subjects must be Category A subjects (excluding Extended Part of Mathematics (Module 1 or Module 2)).
2. Extended Part of Mathematics (Module 1 or Module 2) and Category C subjects (Other Languages) at Grade C or above can be recognised for fulfilment of the second elective requirement.

For admission requirements of Non-JUPAS applicants, please check the updated details at <http://ar.hkbu.edu.hk/>



Curriculum Structure

Study Scheme

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Major Courses		60 units
- Major Core Courses	21 units	
- Major Elective Courses	33 units	
- Honours Project	6 units	
University Core and General Education Courses		31 units
Free Elective Courses		37 units
		128 units

A. Major Core Courses (27 units)

Students have to take all the required courses below:

		Units
RELI 1005	Quest for Truth and Meaning	3
RELI 2006	Introduction to Christianity and Civilizations	3
RELI 2007	Problems of Philosophy	3
RELI 2015	Approaches to the Study of Religion	3
RELI 2027	Introduction to Chinese Philosophy and Religion	3
RELI 2035	Introduction to Ethics	3
RELI 2036	Social Scientific Study of Religion	3
RELI 4898-9	Honours Project	6

B. Major Elective Courses (33 units)

Student have to choose at least six units from each of the four study areas and the rest can be freely chosen among the four study areas. Students can declare to do a concentration or not near the end of second semester of their second year. If they do, they need to take 21 units in one of the study areas as the concentration they prefer, by taking any five major elective courses in that study area and taking Honours Project in the topic related to that study area.



Study Area A: Philosophical Studies

Philosophy addresses some of the fundamental questions about human thought and reality, which include questions concerning knowledge and belief (epistemology), the nature of reality (metaphysics), and morality and aesthetics (value theory). This Study Area aims at developing the philosophical capacities and interests of each student and offering various courses dealing with major problems and history of philosophy. The courses offered cover the major areas of philosophy, and history of philosophy as well as studies of major philosophical figures. The study of philosophy enables students to develop their abilities in critical thinking and reasoning as well as to improve their skills in verbal and written communication. RPE students may take this Study Area as a concentration.

Foundational Branches of Philosophy

RELI 3007	Philosophy, Meaning and Knowledge	3
RELI 3087	Metaphysics: Quest for Reality	3

Major Areas of Philosophy

RELI 3095	Logic and Philosophy of Logic	3
RELI 4005	Philosophy of Religion	3
RELI 3056	Philosophy of Mind, Consciousness, and Personal Identity	3

History of Western Philosophy

RELI 3065	History of Modern Western Philosophy	3
RELI 3096	Contemporary Analytic Philosophy	3

Continental Philosophy

RELI 3027	Existentialism and Nihilism	3
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Chinese Philosophy

RELI 3006	Major Streams in Chinese Philosophy	3
RELI 4047	Mind in Chinese Buddhist Philosophy	3

Others

RELI 4016	Selected Topics/ Readings in Philosophical Studies	3
RELI 4076	Great Plays and Philosophy	3

Study Area B:

Christian Studies and Comparative Religion

This study area provides a comparative study in diverse religious traditions of the world with focus on monotheistic faiths of the Abrahamic tradition (i.e. Judeo-Christianity and Islam), and the Chinese religious traditions of Daoism, Confucianism and Buddhism. Apart from doctrinal and institutional aspects of religion, we also emphasize on social justice in religion, religious conflicts, inter-religious dialogue, and the impact of globalization on religions. By broadening students' horizons through such comparative study, we equip graduates with the capacity of handling challenges in their life and career.

Christian Studies: Foundations & Issues

RELI 3127	History of Christian Thought	3
RELI 3017	A Survey of Jewish and Christian Scriptures	3
RELI 3026	Christianity, Humanism and the Contemporary World	3
RELI 3037	Christian Spirituality	3

Chinese & World Religions

RELI 3135	Buddhism	3
RELI 3005	Daoist Religion	3
RELI 3136	Religious Rituals and Practices in Hong Kong	3
RELI 3137	Confucianism	3
RELI 3047	Islam	3

Comparative Religion

RELI 4025	Christianity and Chinese Culture	3
RELI 4035	Comparative Religious Theme	3

Others

RELI 4027	Selected Topics/ Readings in Christian Studies or Comparative Religion	3
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Study Area C: Interdisciplinary Study of Religion

To address the complexity of the modern world, this area of study emphasizes the importance and practices of studying religious, ethical and philosophical matters through the employment of different academic disciplines. It pays special attention to the interdisciplinary studies between religion and natural science, social science, humanities and other disciplines. Therefore, the area of study also addresses to the need of employing different methodologies and perspectives critically towards the intersections between religion, other disciplines and social-cultural phenomena.

With these methodological awareness and trainings, the students are expected to be capable of explaining and articulating the relevance of religious resources in the analysis of social, cultural and historical issues; and developing critical, analytical and interpretative skills relevant to the understanding of the multi-faceted dimensions of religion and other disciplines.

Religious Studies & Other Disciplines

RELI 4037	Sociology of Religion and Modern Society	3
RELI 3097	Psychology and Religion	3
RELI 3105	Anthropology and Religion	3
RELI 4065	Dialogue between Religion and Modern Science	3

Religion & Social Issues

RELI 4036	Religion and Ideology	3
RELI 3077	Religion and Social Movements	3
RELI 3086	Religion, Violence and Peace	3

Religious, Cultural & Ethical Issues

RELI 4015	Mysticism and Religious Experience	3
RELI 3075	Religion and Animal	3

Religion in Chinese Contexts

RELI 3106	Religion and Modern Chinese Societies	3
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Others

RELI 4046	Selected Topics/ Readings in Religious Studies	3
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Study Area D:

Ethics and Society

This study area provides a comprehensive study of theories and issues in ethics, political philosophy, and studies related to society. The 11 courses below cover the major aspects of this study area, in which (1-2) are about ethical thought, (3-4) ethics, religious traditions and modern society, (5-6) social and political thought, (7-10) contemporary ethical issues, (11) selected topics to allow flexibility and new interests.

Ethical Thought

RELI 3107	Chinese Moral and Political Philosophy	3
RELI 3016	Philosophy, Morality and Society	3

Ethics, Religious Traditions & Modern Society

RELI 3115	Theological Ethics	3
RELI 3116	Islamic Values and Contemporary Society	3

Social & Political Thought

RELI 4066	Ethics of Human Rights: Theories and Controversies	3
RELI 3125	Social Justice, Liberalism and Economic Equality	3

Contemporary Ethical Issues

RELI 3045	Contemporary Ethical Problems: Hong Kong and Beyond	3
RELI 3117	Service Leadership and Meaning of Life and Death	3
RELI 4007	Theology, Liberalism and Sex in Chinese Societies	3
RELI 4067	Environmental Ethics	3

Others

RELI 4075	Selected Topics/ Readings in Ethics	3
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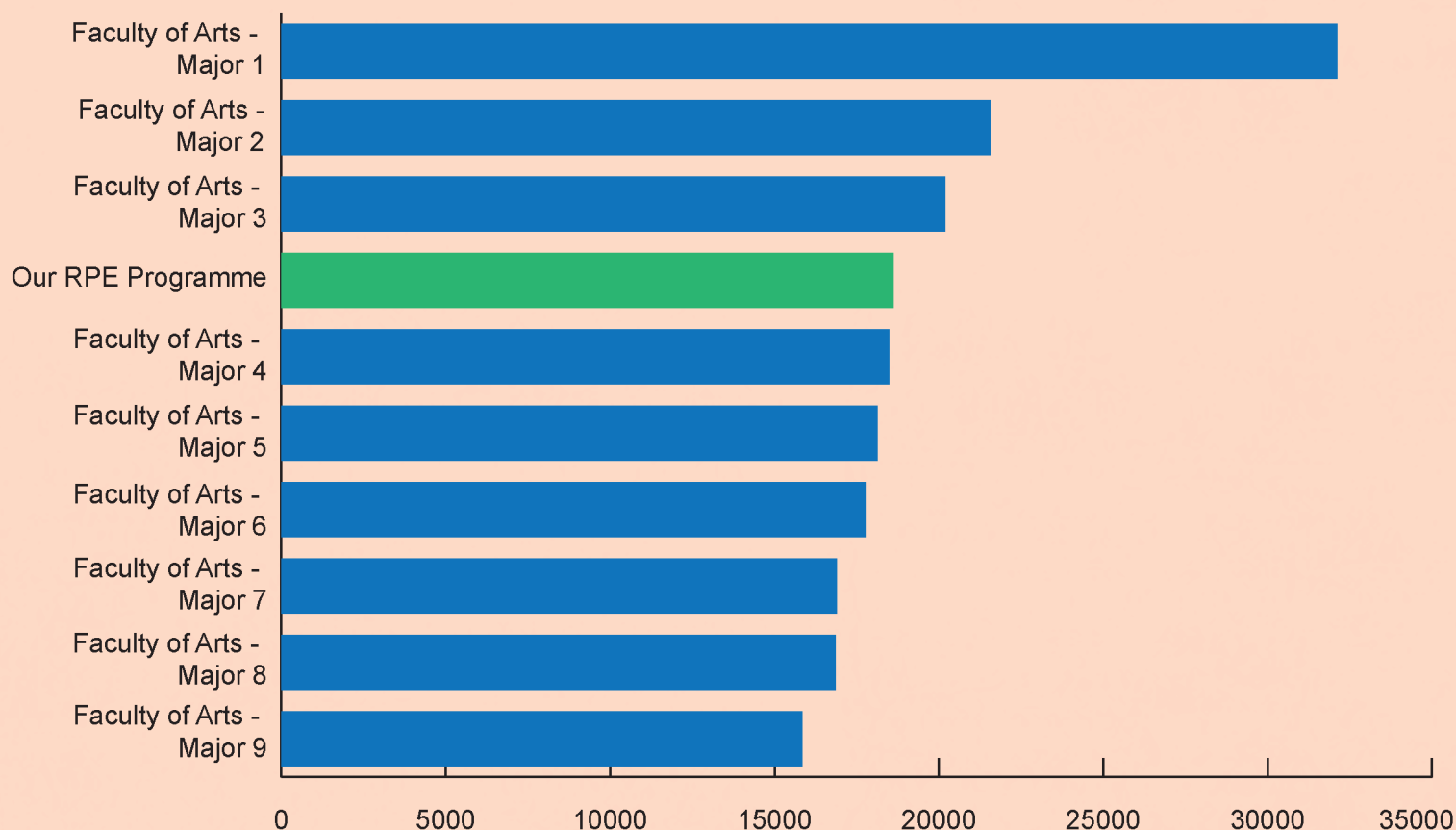
Career Prospects and Further Studies

This programme provides high-quality training which enables students to engage in independent academic research. Graduates in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics will be well-equipped for postgraduate studies. Graduates can also expect to find career development not only in teaching (such as Ethics and Religious Studies), but also in cultural affairs, in the publication business, and in religious-related social service agencies. Furthermore, graduates may consider going into administration in the civil services as well as in the business sector.

It has been generally assumed that Religion, Philosophy and Ethics, like many other Arts and Science majors, may not have direct or necessary link to jobs, except in teaching. But recently the whole concept of the function of higher education has changed. The significant role of higher education is the training of analytical and critical thinking, development of conceptual tools, creativity and flexibility, and a broad base of knowledge. Employers in Hong Kong are looking for these qualities rather than skills in a very narrow scope which may become obsolete in few years. Nowadays, with our society being more open and flexible, a graduate with a good Honours Degree from any major discipline can go into a wide variety of fields for career development. This is particularly true for graduates from the Department of Religion and Philosophy, because so many of our classes focus on enhancing precisely these analytical and creative skills.

According to the employment survey conducted by the Office of Student Affairs, the mean monthly salary of our 2022 graduates is HK\$18,624, ranking the 4th among all programmes offered by the Faculty of Arts.

Mean Monthly Salary Statistics of Our Full-time Employed Graduates in 2022





Employment survey result of our graduates:

	2020	2021	2022
Commerce/Industry	35%	25%	29%
Education	12%	40%	33%
Community/ Social Services	41%	5%	10%
Further Studies	12%	30%	28%

Potential employers' comment towards RPE graduates:

An employer survey was conducted in March 2017 to get the comments of employers from different professions including education, social services, public sector, trading and retailing industry etc. In the survey, the employers' attitudes towards the RPE programme are positive. Over 90% respondents agree that it would be an advantage for potential employees to have knowledge in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics since such knowledge can enable them to have better communication with people who come from different cultures or with different value systems.

Department Activities

The Department of Religion and Philosophy has dedicated to promoting the values embraced in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics to all undergraduates within the University, as well as to the general public. We organized a series of Month of Religion and Philosophy since 2013 and invited a number of renowned persons in the society to deliver quality talk to our students, staff and the public. Furthermore, by providing school talks for secondary schools every year, we aspire to transfer sound knowledge as well as critical study methods on a wide spectrum of topics covering religion, philosophy and ethics related to the society to the youth, thus elevating their intellectual and social awareness of issues relating to their study and well-being. The Department also collaborated with our undergraduate students to organize the High Table Dinner every year, inviting guest speaker to deliver a topic for the interest of students.





Department Activities





Student Activities



Study Tour

The Department organized study tours to various places. The Dunhuang-Xinjiang Study Tour is a special joint programme co-organized by the Department of Religion and Philosophy, HKBU and the School of History and Culture, Lanzhou University. The ten-day tour offers a unique opportunity through which students learn about and experience a variety of religious and intra-cultural traditions.

The Europe Study Tour, which aims to provide an excellent way for students to get first-hand information about religious issues and enjoy a unique learning experience, broadening their horizons of understanding western European countries and enriching their knowledge of different historical periods of Christianity.

Besides the above summer tours, we also organize short trips outside Hong Kong during the semesters, such as Guangzhou and Macau, to explore different religious activities in the neighbouring region.





Student Activities

Summer Internship Programme

The Department organizes Summer Internship Programme for our students since 2002 to work in NGOs (Non-governmental Organisations), social enterprises, offices of Legislative Councilors, and institutions from public and private sectors. Students can widen their exposure through working, relate the real life with their studies, gain valuable working experience and be able to identify their career path after graduation.



Overseas Exchange Programme

Our students have opportunities to study abroad in partner institutions by joining the University' s Overseas Exchange Programme.

Other Student-Teacher Gatherings

Students can also experience close student-teacher relationship which is unique in our Department. A lot of gatherings and learning opportunities, such as Orientation Day, Chinese New Year gathering, Christmas party, High Tea, Career and CV Writing Workshop etc., will be organized from time to time. Every student will be assigned an academic advisor or mentor who will meet from time to time to help students on academic matter and guide them during the whole study period in our Department. Some students still keep contact with their mentors and other teachers after graduation.



Scholarship Opportunities

To encourage and reward REL Major students who have worked hard and excelled in their studies, our Department offers a number of scholarships to students according to their GPA in that academic year:

- Department of Religion and Philosophy Scholarships for Major Students
- Luk Yin Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Stephen Chan Christian Spirituality Scholarship

Admission Scholarship

To award outstanding HKDSE students admitted to the programme, the Faculty of Arts offers a scholarship starting from the 2020 intake:

Sum of HKDSE Score (4 core + 2 electives)	Amount of scholarship
HKDSE score 30 or above	\$42,100 (one-off, 100% of the first-year tuition)
HKDSE score 29	\$21,050 (one-off, 50% of the first-year tuition)

Other Financial Aid

Our Department offers subsidies to students participating in study tours such as Europe and Dunhuang-Xinjiang, in order to reduce the financial burden of students.

The University also provides lots of merit scholarship, exchange scholarships, awards, bursaries and financial aid to students. For details, please visit the website of Office of Student Affairs <http://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/sfa>.





Messages from Alumni

Chan Hung Ming 陳洪明

BA (Hons) 2017

在宗哲系，你絕對會完完全全地體驗到什麼是「亦師亦友」的師生關係。

「食」是宗哲系的一大特色，老師們除了教學認真，亦是「玩得食得」之人。他們不時會邀請同學一同「食飯吹水」一邊談談宗教及哲學，一邊聊聊生活軼事。因此「飲茶」、「食 Pizza」和「食糖水」等「文化節目」是宗哲系不可或缺的活動。現在回想起過去兩年，同學們的確「發福」不少。我還記得一次與同學們攻佔了「Soc 房」，彼此圍席而坐，一同為「History of Christian Thought」這個「S 級」考試費煞思量。當大家溫習得士氣低落，為「能否合格」而擔憂時，有老師突然出現，為我們送上幾大袋薯片、百力滋、蝦條等「糧草」，更附上一大支白酒助我們上陣殺敵，真的有如天降甘露！最後，老師還留下來與我們一同溫習，指導我們。明顯，此情只應宗哲有！

不過，相信有很多人會疑惑：「讀完宗哲系「可以」做什麼？」我的回應是：「讀完宗哲系「不可以」做什麼？」宗哲系所教授的不只是知識，而是思考和批判的終身技能，教你如何在瞬息萬變和資訊爆炸的年代中撥開迷霧，不至迷失於偏見和思想的陷阱當中。而且，我再想追問的是：「哪一份工作不需要用到人的頭腦？哪一位老闆不需要思維靈敏的員工？」坊間流傳「文史哲科是「乞食科」，但其實，是否「乞食」應與「個人能力」有更大的關係吧。科目從來都不會叫人「乞食」，但「乞食」的從來都是「用家」自身所造成。過去的學習，雖然自己不是成為一名「專才」，但最起码自己不是成為「蠢才」。因為在宗哲系的學習中，除了會令你在心思和論證方面變得更為謹慎嚴密外，你更會學到「通情達理」。通過哲學方面的訓練、宗教維度的認識，以及倫理層面的探究，我相信你所帶走的，是非一般的眼界和頭腦，從此曉得動之以情，說之以理，成為一個情理兼備的人。



Ching Wai Kuen John 程衛權

BA (Hons) 2005

前中聖書院副學務主任

自修讀宗教研究至今，一直常被問及「宗教研究學甚麼？」、「修讀宗教有甚麼前途？」、「何以修讀宗教可以教通識？」云云，似乎坊間對此學科有著一點點的誤解。

宗哲系的訓練並不神化，亦不是完全抽象，反而是扎實地做好思考訓練，通過哲學與宗教這載體，培養靈性，以及了解人類文化和社會。

宗教與哲思是人類不可或缺的，故此，修讀此科習得的不單單是本科知識，更是一套思考模式、理解世界的框架，即或在畢業後工作，仍能學以致用。老實說，今天的視野、思考與決定，不少是當天學院習而得來。



Messages from Alumni



Dr. Li Ka Chun, Gordon 李家駿博士

BA (Hons) 1998

圓玄學院副總幹事

同學可能基於不同原因入讀浸大文學院，以至宗哲系，可能並非首選。但同學必須找到自己獨特之處——文科的同學能有更多工作選擇；專業科的則有所局限。年輕人擁有的就是時間和機會，同學應朝着理想，不斷裝備增值自己。學術出身不與成就掛勾，文科的背景亦絕不會窒礙發展；相反，未來的高度取決於人生路上的付出和態度。

Iris Leung 梁佩儀, CFA, FRM

BA (Hons) 1992

Vice President, Thornton Global Wealth Management Ltd

Having been graduated for over twenty five years, frankly speaking, I've forgot most of contents of lectures and those great names in religious areas. What leaves with me, however, is a mind with independent thoughts. In the commercial world, you will be immersed in tremendous amount of information every day. How to solve your problems with various sources of information? Different people will provide different solutions, some are conflicting each other. Who to follow? It is always important for you to extract important/ relevant ones, examine them in different perspectives and draw your own conclusion. Of course, I believe training of independent thinking is delivered in most university curriculums. Learn to have an independent mind in religious settings, nonetheless, has never been an easy task. Religion involves beliefs that call for serious commitment. When you face with different religions, or a religion with different schools of thoughts, it is an art to defend your viewpoint in a fair and impartial manner while learning to respect others' positions. This open-mind attitude makes you stand out from others and, at the same time, makes you a potential leader of a group: you learn to listen to others and appreciate people with different backgrounds. It equips you with the ability to balance people's interests and bring them together. You can ask anyone in a management team, s/he can tell you how important is this skill in his/her capacity. Use your independent thinking now, choose your own way. No matter what is your final choice, I wish you every success in your future endeavours.



Raymond So 蘇志遠

BA (Hons) 1992

上海浦東發展銀行副總經理

現今社會提倡終身學習，所有人都為著工作及前途不斷進修，避免遭受淘汰。畢業了多年的我亦如是。回顧過去，我在宗哲系內渡過了快樂的三年，找到志同道合的同學、循循善誘的老師；並且通過思想訓練，建立自我目標及生命根基。

工作的事留待畢業後才想吧！盡情在宗哲系內享受學習的樂趣！

Pang Hiu Yu 彭曉瑜

BA (Hons) 2016

Administrative Staff of a UGC-funded University

Studying in the Department of Religion and Philosophy (RELI) has been one of the most transformational and rewarding memorable experiences in my life. I still remember that during my first study year here, I was so reluctant to go to classrooms as I have stereotypes of the subject: detached from reality, poor career prospect... However, the learning experience totally changed my mind: teachers are supportive, caring and inspiring; they are always willing to provide guidance and advice; I had many opportunities to join study tours, which was one of the most precious memories in my life; I also joined internship in a fair trade organization, which has molded my career path. I learnt how to understand the world and my life from different perspectives, as well as how to think critically. Proud and pleased to be a graduate of RELI!



Dr. Lui Yue Chun, Matthew 呂宇俊博士

BA (Hons) 1999

使命浸信會(溫哥華)傳道人

香港浸會大學「2015傑出校友獎」得主

香港十大傑出青年2006

恩賢教育中心榮譽顧問

號角月報(美西北版)專欄作者

宗哲系給我意想不到的改變

你會否相信會考 0 分的學生在大學能夠取得一級榮譽畢業？

你會否相信曾是會考英文取 U，在大學時卻能取得 A 級畢業？

你會不會相信一個從小就害怕說話的人（中二時坐小巴也不夠膽叫落車），但大學畢業後已講了三千場講座，聽眾人數超過十萬人，最多聽眾的一場是在政府大球場對著三萬多人演講？

你會否相信一個看漫畫的字也嫌多的人，卻在三年間出了八本著作，其中一本還成為香港書展的四十本推介好書之一？

你會否相信一個曾是黑社會的學生，後來成為學校的通識科科主任，負責聘請及培訓老師？

因著宗哲系，我有以上的改變，在 2006 年，我獲選香港十大傑出青年。當年中六時，我已決定選擇宗哲系為我的第一志願。三年的學習，讓我學會了「說話」「寫作」「思辨」「組織」的技巧，更讓我意想不到是。





Sun Meng 孫萌

BA (Hons) 2018

DPhil Candidate in Theology and Religion
Oriental College, The University of Oxford

Looking back from where I am now, the knowledge and insights provided by the RPE programme have certainly laid the foundation for my independent thinking, for we were offered the right questions about life: In what order should we order our life to form a beautiful and meaningful narrative? Is there a foundation for the harmonious love among our fellow human beings? These are the lessons that our society, and sometimes even family, fails to give, but they are necessary for living a worthwhile life in a self-conscious way. Indeed, nothing is more precious than imagining and contemplating about our future with the fellowship of other youthful souls when we need guidance the most.

I am grateful for all the kind tutors at our department who made the best efforts to nurture this intellectual and spiritual curiosity within myself. For some of my dear junior friends, this journey may be with you for life in a professional way. But furthermore, for everyone these experiences at the RPE courses will become your treasured memories and always an incitement to the lifelong exploration of your inner nature.

TONG Yee Ki 唐綺琪

BA (Hons) 2016

三年前，我因為對哲學有興趣而「很天真很傻」地選擇入讀宗哲系。在眾多文院同學、商科好友、或者將「阿邊個入左港大讀醫 / Law」掛在口邊的三姑六婆眼中，入宗哲系的只有「傻仔」——水泡科、無錢賺，跟你談出路好比和尚梳頭、太監上青樓……但三年過去，我仍沒有後悔入讀宗哲系。

大學並非職業訓練所，你或許不能成為一個專才，但手持文史哲「乞食三寶」卻也是個難得的通才。你或許不懂得舞文弄墨，但至少寫得出嚴密謹慎的論證；你或許看不懂那些又上又落的股票圖，卻也認得幾張文藝復興的畫作；你也或許不是一個教徒，但你了解並尊重他人的信仰。

宗教研究和哲學是一個與香港商業社會完全相反的學科，它充滿著人文關懷、追求真理的熱誠和成德成仁的精神——在古希臘，人們稱哲學為一切學問之母；在古中華，這種教人明德至善的學科正是大學之道。我們探討一切與生命相關的議題：何謂正義？何謂善？人生於世又為何？我們沒有課本、沒有既定的標準、更沒有答案。我們有的是提出問題的好奇、尋找答案的自由和對生命的關懷。

宗哲系不會教你知識，它讓你思考、讓你批判前人。在瞬息萬變的生活洪流中，你那邏輯思維、格物致知的能力將成方舟；古今聖賢、中西大哲的道理將為火炬。在營營役役的人群中，你或許不比別人聰明富有，但你的獨到眼光與自由意志將使你無可取替。

祝願各位在未來人生路上活出真我，瀟灑走一回！



Zhao Wanqing 趙文清

BA (Hons) 2011

杜克大學博士後

比較哲學研究中心副主任

惠特曼大學助理教授

在香港浸會大學宗教哲學系四年的學習，為我的學術發展奠定了良好的基礎。浸大宗哲系在香港眾多的人文科系中獨樹一幟，不單強調宗教文化的熏陶，同時致力於深入的哲學思辨。浸大宗哲系的教授們都擁有深厚的東西文化學養，在全世界範圍內，這樣的資源都屬難能可貴。在浸大宗哲的本科生涯，令我對東西方比較哲學發生了濃厚的興趣，指引了我今後的學術發展方向。一直到今天，我都很感謝宗哲係為我提供了紮實豐富的本科教育。宗哲系的獨特優勢和風格，令我在進一步深造的過程中能亦步亦趨，東西互鑑。

除了豐富的學術資源，宗哲系還致力於學生的全人發展。不但為學生提供去中國內地以及歐洲交流訪問的機會，還鼓勵同學們參與本地的社會參訪，親自觀摩宗教儀式與社會機構。這些活動大大地豐富了我對宗教文化的理解，一方面深化了本土觀察，另一方面也增進了全球視角。



Wing Yick 易穎華

BA (Hons) 2001

人力資源經理

「宗教？哲學？」樂在不言中：從打破自己有限的「神神化」的想法，然後在無限學習的空間中反思宗教中的哲學，又摸索哲學中的宗教。當中發現很多令人意想不到的驚喜。三年來的宗哲生活，最有趣的莫過於建立了很多理解事實真相的新方法，對於將來解釋自己所信、所見、所為，都有很大啟發。我相信宗教和哲学科絕對能滿足經常愛問「為什麼？」的人！



Michelle Tsang 曾詠雪

BA (Hons) 2014

現為香港大學法學專業證書(PCLL)課程學生

讀大學不只是為了職業，而是為了學習怎樣做人，怎樣改進社會。人生不是一場短跑，是一場馬拉松，不只求速度，更講求耐力與堅忍。學習不同的宗教、世界觀和人生觀，可以幫助自己處理人生中面對的道德兩難問題和逆境危難，了解明白不同宗教歷史、文化背景和種族的人，促進溝通化解誤會與矛盾。以有涯追無涯，怠矣，學習哲學不僅是了解其他哲學家所想，更是找出適合自己時代的一套哲學，創造屬於自己的一套哲學，尋找萬物的最基本道理，因而能用有限的知識去解決未知和無限的問題。這兩年來，宗教和哲學的學習使我明瞭如何在心靈和知識上做一個更完善的人。畢業後我就讀倫敦大學法律系二年級，以前的宗教哲學培訓令我更容易掌握法律系要求的平衡個人權利和集體利益的批判思考。法律亦建基於公義的哲學，立法時需考慮當時社會的價值觀，而宗教觀則深深影響著人們的價值觀。總括來說，希望各位不要只做一個讀哲學宗教的學生，而是要求自己做一個宗教哲學家，這樣在本系學到的思考模式，將來不論在任何一個行業發展必定終生受用。



Cheung Tsz Wai 張子威

BA (Hons) 2022

實習機構：是敢的創作室

實習日期：2022年7月至8月

作為一位宗哲系學生，非常榮幸能於「是敢的創作室」任實習生，這是我人生第一次實習，如無意外也是最後一次。當時我抱著暑假閒著也沒事幹的心態報名，想不到因為有類似背景而得到取錄。同事們當然對於我作於宗哲系學生任創作室的實習生感到愕然，但很快就接納我這個稚氣未脫的實習生。

在這短短的兩個月裡，不論是創作、運鏡還是剪接上，各方面技巧都有所進步。在成為實習生前，攝影出身的我對影片創作並沒有太多認識，雖說有剪接經驗，但也不過是基本剪接，並沒有太多技巧。

過去兩個月，幸有一衆前輩教導，培養了我對事物的觸覺，了解到不同的角度會有不同的效果。在宗哲系師兄兼工作室創辦人 Ringo 的安排下我得到了更多外出拍攝的機會。過程中主要由一位外判的前輩進行拍攝，我負責從旁協助。由於不同的前輩有不同的技巧，因此每一次都會學到不同的技巧，而且他們也相當願意指導我，令我更加熟悉鏡頭的運用。

公司有不同的職位，有主職監製、媒體主管、剪接等。我曾任拍攝助理 (PA)，學習到如何協助攝影師拍攝、燈光的放置、各種器材的操作等；也曾經協助剪接東華三院的影片，雖說不算難，但從中我的剪接技巧獲得提昇；我亦有協助創作社交媒體 Instagram 上有短影片 (Reel)，Ringo 更讓我自行創作一條 Instagram 的短影片。由零到一的創作相當困難，可謂集監製、導演、拍攝及後製於一身。但這是我首次接觸自編自導自拍，經驗難忘，當然各方面技巧也得到進步。最重要是構思時，要顧及各方面因素，例如雨天的替補方案等，了解到所有事都要預先作最壞的打算。

最難忘是正在進行中的一條影片，算是我的畢業作品，目前仍在剪接階段。題目是「孟蘭節」。要拍攝一條三至五分鐘的影片，內容自定。我覺得最難是在構思內容方面，由於題材很廣，如何選材及尋找受訪者都是難題。我

訪問了旺角孟蘭勝會的負責人以及香港浸會大學歷史系講師，目前仍在為如何連貫兩者的訪談內容而苦惱。

兩個月的實習過程算不上輕鬆（有些拍攝在早上進行，傍晚才完工），我的膚色也健康了不少，差一點變成了朱古力。然而我的收穫卻十分豐富，先不論所學到的技巧，認識一衆友善的同事們已是最大收穫，從他們身上學到不同的做人道理，也深受他們對影片創作的熱誠所影響。我甚少聽到他們抱怨工作辛苦，更多的是聽到他們互相鼓勵。雖然我將來未必會向這方面發展，但我在實習所學的定必會體現在我的人生裡。



Leung Cheuk Lam 梁卓琳

BA (Hons) 2019

實習機構：教育局課程發展處個人社會及人文教育組

實習日期：2019年5月至6月

短短的六星期，在實習中可以嘗試的範疇比想像中多，當中的得著亦非常深刻。由處理辦公室文書工作、利用軟件製作教材、以至準備活動及於活動現場提供協助，各樣的經驗和過程都令我獲益良多。

當中令我得著最深的是我們做各樣工作時要份外細心，因為我們代表的是政府部門，處理各項文件包括上司開會的文件時，資料要準確無誤，反覆檢查，以免出錯。準備活動物資的時候，更要多加小心，例如不了解對方的稱謂時需多加確認。各樣流程都要安排仔細清楚，才可以令活動順行進行。過程中可能會有不同的突發情況，我們都要冷靜面對。記得一次活動期間，有參加者不慎在樓梯間跌倒而入院。我們要學習如何處理，並在下次於同樣的場地時更注意安全及多加提醒參加者。另外製作教材時，我們也要考慮全面。例如資料來源是否可信、印刷後會否引起閱讀上的不便、內容是否容易產生誤解等。

實習期間最特別的是有幸可以聆聽不同活動中嘉賓的分享，從中學到一些知識和教導。我也很感恩在實習的過程中能夠與其他實習同學和老師職員等相處融洽，令我明白工作的環境也相當重要。不論是上司或其他同事都非常友善，令我整個實習都非常愉快，是一個很可貴的工作經驗。





Chung Chi Hoi 鍾智愷

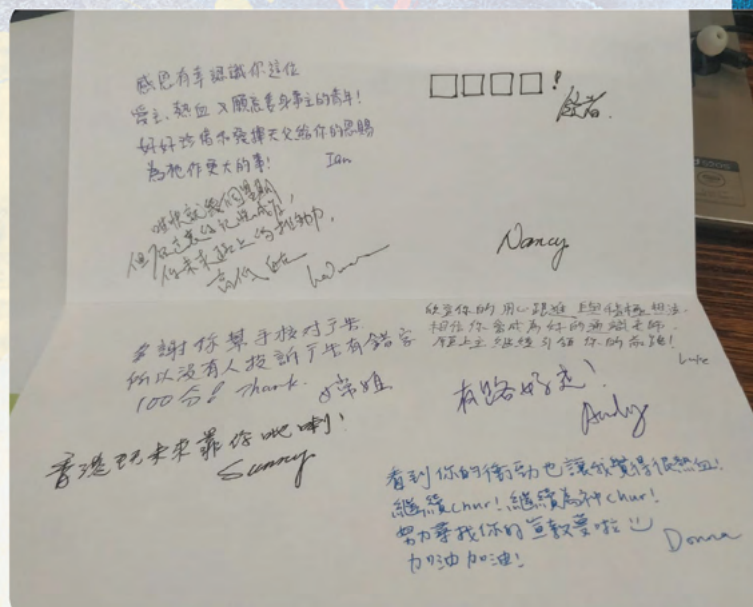
BA (Hons) 2020

實習機構：時代論壇

實習日期：2020年6月至7月

《時代論壇》的工作是一份充滿挑戰性的工作，從採訪、校對、寫稿、更新網頁等都需要觸及，每一項工作都是一種學習。在實務的工作上亦有很多能夠學習的地方，例如如何精簡地表達講者的意思，同時又吸引讀者，已是不容易的課題。時代論壇的同事都非常友善，很願意教導實習生，亦刻意安排不同的機會讓實習生接觸不同的工作，讓實習生能夠充分利用這段實習時間學習。

《時代論壇》的工作亦拓闊了我的眼界。因為在採訪的過程中有機會與不同有名的教牧交談，例如羅慶才牧師、王少勇牧師、陳恩明牧師等。聆聽這些資深牧者的教誨是一種嶄新的體驗，特別當他們以自己的經歷結合理論來陳述，便更為觸動人心。對於《時代論壇》，自己亦深有感觸。有人說《時代論壇》過於政治，亦有網民批評我的報道字眼過於溫和而被質疑是自我審查。在種種別人的眼光中，我看見《時代論壇》如何堅守「疾風中企硬」的信念，即便別人如何標籤《時代論壇》依然如實報道。記者可以按著主題寫重點，但不能偏頗，一切都如實記錄。無論受訪者或講者政治取向如何，《時代論壇》亦會將事實陳述，甚至樂於將原句轉述，讓讀者自行下判斷。



另外，《時代論壇》的經驗亦使我重新反思基督徒在社會的角色。過往基督教於香港社會的角色都偏向沉默，只在一些道德倫理的範疇上發聲，在政治的風波上衆多教會都未有經驗和智慧去應對。經過 2014 年，教會在政治的動盪中更懂得去應對，而我很慶幸在如此時刻加入時代論壇，見證不同的牧者參與在香港的社會當中，又能以記者的身份聆聽不同的講座，進一步反思信仰和社會的關係。在採訪中，我看見牧者在香港的現況下有更深刻的反思，特別是對於先知的角色，不同牧者都在當中身體力行，亦有非基督徒的參與。能夠看見過往在課堂上對於公共神學的反思得以實踐，對於自己亦是寶貴的一課。

Student Exchange

CHIANG Kam Yin 蔣錦賢

BA (Hons) 2020

My Thai experience during exchange

Thailand is a popular tourist destination for Hongkongers. However, I believe that few people would think of studying here. I have always been interested in Thailand's unique culture and leisure lifestyle. So I did not hesitate to make Thailand my first choice for exchange and hoped to experience an authentic Thai lifestyle there.

I am now studying at Chulalongkorn University, the most historic university in Thailand. The campus is larger than The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Fortunately, the school lays on buses for students. Moreover, university students in Thailand are required to wear school uniforms. Chulalongkorn students wear white shirts and black trousers or long skirts. I had never worn a school uniform since graduating from secondary school, which makes studying in Thailand take me back to my earlier years.



There are a lot of activities, such as Freshy Games for freshmen, and various competitions. I took part in the volleyball competition. During the game, I felt Thai people's enthusiasm, love of sport and outstanding skills. They also put a lot of effort into preparing delicate promotional materials and practising cheerleading and dancing. Students with different skills could show their talents.

In addition to these abundant activities, the school also provides many learning resources for students. In addition to the central library, almost every faculty has its own independent library for students. The students are very diligent. You can see that the library is full of students who are studying for their exams. Moreover, what surprised me is their brilliant language skills. Most students understand at least one foreign language other than Thai and English!

Thai people are kind-hearted and optimistic. I encountered many difficulties when I first arrived in Thailand, but my Thai friends helped me tirelessly. They actively talked to me when they found out I was a foreigner. Thai people are also very inclusive. I often saw boys dressed like ladies on campus. They could still get along very well with their schoolmates.

Life in Thailand is really comfortable, and the cost of living is very low. You can have a delicious lunch in the university canteen with less than 10 HKD. Living in Thailand has also improved my Thai, because I am immersed in an environment where it is spoken.

All in all, I am very happy to choose to go on exchange to a country that I love. My year in Thailand will be definitely a lifelong memory!



Sun Meng 孫萌

BA (Hons) 2018

運河小鎮的悠長假期—萊登大學交換記

一直以來，我對感受不同文化有一種強烈的興趣。在香港居住了兩年的我喜歡她的活力與繁榮，不過同時也有些厭倦大都會喧囂的環境。在瀏覽交換生計劃網站的時候，我把每一所我有興趣的大學都查詢了一遍，直至見到位於一座運河小鎮的荷蘭萊登大學，頓時認定這是理想之選——事實也證明直覺給了我正確的抉擇。

憑運河辨別方位 單車於城內穿梭

我住在城區，城市面積很小，從城市的一端去往另一端只需要二十分鐘步行的時間。每次我步行的時候，總是會以四通八達的運河來數算我當前的位置。我尤其鍾愛運河兩岸的風景，因為萊登的居民很用心，總是將河岸的房舍打扮得整齊漂亮；盛夏時常有人在水上泛舟，我也體驗過乘船沿河遊覽全市的感覺，實在令人心曠神怡。

當然多數時間我完全不想步行，因為荷蘭的踏單車環境實在太好了！多數道路旁邊都建有寬闊的專用單車徑，在不少路口單車甚至享有讓行人和車輛等自己先過的特權。在路邊，橋上或者火車站周圍常有大量閒置單車，蔚為壯觀。荷蘭人大多從小習慣踏單車，所以當地人擁有的單車數量甚至比總人口還多。每日上課我都會踏車，順着河流穿越公路，有時還能與汽車競速，這也是日常的一趣。

人文氣氛濃厚 趣事永遠不乏

萊登大學是荷蘭歷史最久的大學，尤以人文學科著稱，荷蘭皇室成員也在此求學。城市雖小，到訪學者卻來自世界各地。各地學人的交流使得萊登永遠不乏學習文化的機會。在這裡，我參加了一個讀書俱樂部，要在辛苦的學習時間之外額外分配時間來讀書，實在是個挑戰，不過我也藉此瞭解到歐洲文明的思想。而我也參加了不少每週一聚的社交俱樂部，每次都是聚餐，自然少不了展示廚藝的機會。當然最難忘的莫過於開學迎新周，不同國家的人分在同一組，白天造訪名勝，夜晚就轉去各式各樣的酒吧舞廳，雖然疲累，但那是一段非常快樂的體驗，獨在異鄉的大家聚在一起反而並不覺得寂寞。

在香港兩年我流連於舍堂文化，不過在荷蘭，學生獨居一室也是常有之事。我的個人空間包括廚房和浴室，這使得我很多時間要自己一個人度過，不過打理自己的飲食其實是件很有意義的事情，而獨居也使人更加珍惜自己工作與思考的時間，以及友誼的體驗。

週末我會和好友去不同的地方旅行，我也很慶幸可以用荷蘭居民的身分隨意前往多數歐洲國家。短短半年時間我已行走過十數個國家，從以前的對外國人往往一概而論，到如今能分辨出每個國家不同的文化甚至性格，收穫的遠不止是旅途中的快樂。在我回港之前，旅途仍將繼續！

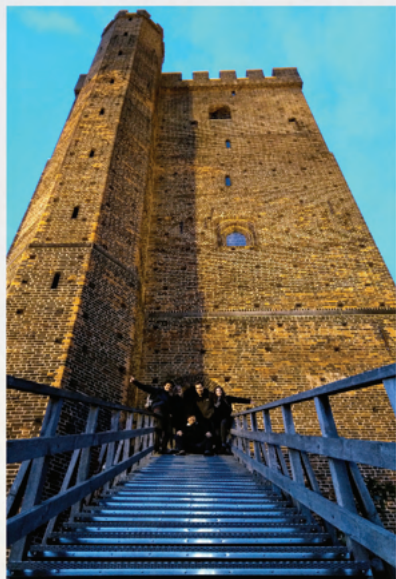


WONG Shing Hung 王成鴻

BA (Hons) 2020

Letter from a Student Abroad: Thoughts on my exchange

When I was applying for exchange programmes, I only opted for universities in Northern Europe as I wanted to go to places that are very different from Hong Kong. I finally went to Halmstad University in Sweden.



After coming back, I found my exchange experience was like a dream. I would like to, based on my experience, give three suggestions. They may sound clichéd, but they represent my feelings, which are probably shared by many other exchange students as well.

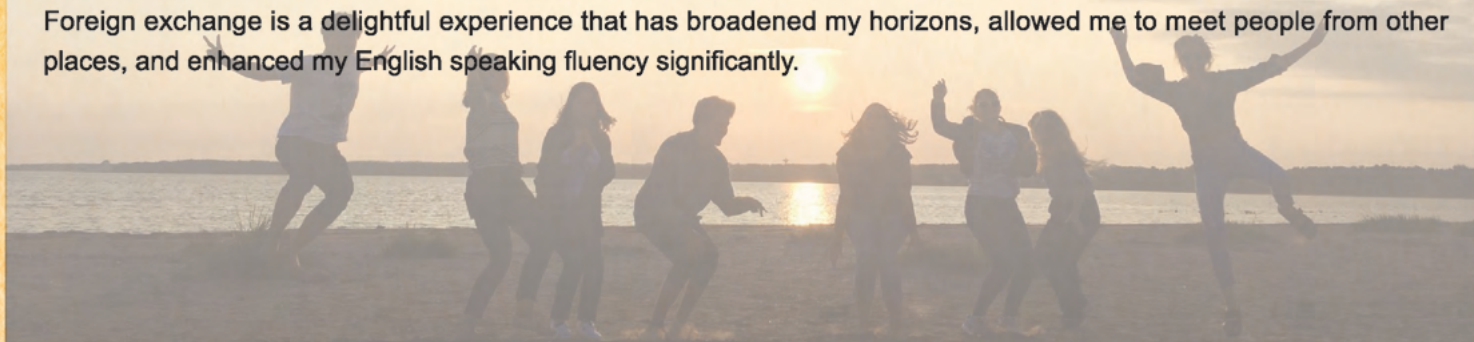
First of all, try to hang on with people of different backgrounds during your exchange period. When I was in Sweden, the dorm kitchen was a place I enjoyed wandering around. I got to know what the foreign students were cooking and asked about their cuisines (a great opening line!) We then sat around the table, talking about different topics like our local cultures, politics, and languages while having our meal. It is not common to do so in Hong Kong. Sticking with people who have a similar cultural background to you will not benefit you much, as you will be missing out opportunities of having in-depth conversations with people from other countries.

Secondly, you need to respect other people's culture. Once there was a strong smell in the kitchen. I thought it was coming from rotten food, so I checked the fridges, but everything was fine. Covering my nose, I asked my Korean friend whether she smelled the odour too. Then I realized: it was from her cooking pot! I didn't go any further and broke off the conversation awkwardly before going back to my room. I learned a lesson: never show yourself to be overly astonished when communicating with people from other cultures. In order to get along with others, it is important to learn to accept and be inclusive of differences.

However, another lesson I learned is to always avoid cooking food with intense smell. Using common facilities without bothering other users is a way to show respect and be respected by others as well.

Thirdly, you have to cherish every moment during your stay. Living in the dorm in Sweden, I made friends coming from various countries like Dubai, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Taiwan, India, the US, and the UK. Although they have different personalities, they are all kind and lovely. In retrospect, I regret wasting some of the time watching movies in my room during the afternoon and missing the chance to chat with my international friends.

Foreign exchange is a delightful experience that has broadened my horizons, allowed me to meet people from other places, and enhanced my English speaking fluency significantly.



Article translated in English by: CHAN Yee Man (Student of the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies)

Student Achievements



MOHAMMAD Osama Ali

Current Student

UN University Volunteer in Media and Research for
UNESCO in Jakarta, Indonesia, 2023

SUN Meng 孫萌

BA (Hons) 2018

TAwardee of The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Scholarship Scheme 2015-2017



Lui Yue Chun, Matthew 呂宇俊

BA (Hons) 1999

The HKBU Distinguished Alumni Award, 2015
The Outstanding Young Persons Award, 2006

Xu Shi Ying 徐詩穎

BA (Hons) 2017

The 4th Chang Kuo-sin Award for Young Aspiring Com-
municators - Commentary: Gold Award, 2013



Cai Hao 蔡昊

BA (Hons) 2018

Best delegate,
Model European Union 2013



Lam Pui Ling 林佩玲

BA(Hons) 2013

Third class award, National Challenge Cup Contest in China, 2013
Title of thesis: "Temple and Its Social Function: A Case Study of the Fook Tak Temple in Ngau Tau Kok"
(《宗教廟宇與其社會功能——以牛頭角福德廟作為研究個案》)

Cheng Shuk Wa 鄭淑華

BA(Hons) 2011

Third class award, National Challenge Cup Contest in China, 2011
Title of thesis: "Religious Organization and Feminist Movement: A Case Study of the Hong Kong Women Christian Council"
(《宗教組織與婦女運動：以香港婦女基督徒協會作為研究個案》)



Tang Cheuk Kwan 鄧卓坤

BA(Hons) 2011

Third class award, National Challenge Cup Contest in China, 2011
Title of thesis: "Had the Nestorian Doctrines been Distorted due to Introduction of Buddhist Elements in Tang Dynasty? Looking from the Perspective of the Church of the East"
(《從東方教會教義看唐代景教教義是否因滲入佛教元素而變質》)

Zhao Wenqing 趙文清

BA(Hons) 2011

Best position paper, Award, Hong Kong Constitutional Reform, UBI Summit, 2010
The Baptist Convention of Hong Kong Outstanding Student Awards, 2010
The Hong Kong Baptist University Scholastic Award, 2010



Hui Kwai Yan 許桂茵

BA(Hons) 2010

Outstanding Service Awards for Tertiary Students 2009-2010, the Hong Kong Student Services Association and the Hong Kong Outstanding Tertiary Students' Service Association

Faculty Members

Dr. Kwok, Wai Luen
郭偉聯博士

Head cum Associate Professor
Associate Director, Centre for Sino-Christian Studies



I have been brought up in Sham Shui Po, and thus, was a typical downtown boy of Hong Kong. I witnessed, if not experienced, the stiff life of lower class. In my younger days, I decided to find ways for promoting better life among the poor. I studied Public and Social Administration and contemplated to be a politician or civil servant after graduation. Also, I have entered the election of the Student Union and become the Vice Chairman of Council, in which I wanted to seek a path of social participation. But, in the meanwhile, I slowly realised that the influence of religions to the society is important and vital. Some fundamental changes, which benefit people's well being, are undergoing in hearts and minds. Thus, I turn to study Theology and History of Christianity. I believe that the religion studies may help students explore human life meaning and wisdom, which the contemporary society neglects but desperately needs. My research interests are Christian Theology, Hermeneutics, History of Christian Thought, Chinese Christianity, and Christianity and Social Change.

Dr. Mak, George K. W. **麥金華博士**

Associate Head cum Associate Professor



During my undergraduate studies, I developed a strong interest in Christianity as a religion of translation and its role in modern Chinese history. After receiving my BA degree (Major: Translation, Minors: German Studies and History) and MPhil degree in Translation from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2005 and 2007 respectively, I became a doctoral student at the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies of the University of Cambridge, where I conducted research into the relationship between Protestant Bible translation and the development of Mandarin from a lingua franca in late Qing China into the national language of modern China. I was awarded my PhD degree in 2011.

Before joining the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Hong Kong Baptist University, I was on the research staff of the University's David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies first as Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2011-2013) and later as Research Assistant Professor (2013-2017). My research interests are Bible Translation, Chinese Protestant Christianity, History of Christian Missions, Language and Nationalism in Modern China, Religious Publishing and Print Culture in Modern China, and Sino-Foreign Cultural Relations.

Prof. Kwan, Kai Man 關啟文教授

Professor
Director, Centre for Sino-Christian Studies
Director, MA in Ethics and Public Affairs



I love the study of philosophy and religion. I think it helps us think critically and ponder the meaning of our lives. Many students are surprised to hear that the first degree I studied was Electrical Engineering (University of Hong Kong), and I had taught physics and mathematics for some time in secondary schools. However, as a young graduate, I was drawn gradually into an agonized reflection on the purpose of my life and answers to ultimate questions. As a result, I switched my course and went to the United Kingdom to study religion and philosophy. In 1989, I got a Bachelor of Divinity (First Class) from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. In 1991 and 1993, I was awarded a MPhil in Philosophical Theology and a DPhil respectively from the University of Oxford. My research interests include philosophy of science, systematic theology, science-religion dialogue, and social ethics. Courses taught include: Religion and Modern Science; Philosophy of Life in Existentialism; Comparative Religious Themes; Philosophy of Religion.

Prof. PIETARINEN, Ahti-Veikko

Professor



I relocated to Hong Kong from the arctic plains and fells of Northern Europe, where I first worked as professor of philosophy at the University of Helsinki, Finland, and then at the Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia. For ten years, I commuted to work by ferry across the gulf between the two countries. Maybe it is our common future. When I was at school, I got interested in sciences, especially human and machine intelligence, reasoning, mathematics, and logic. The first personal computers were around to be programmed and reverse-engineered (broken apart); they were also useful to write and edit stories. Soon a school student can make an AI movie with the least effort. What will happen with the creation of new ideas in the future? Where do they come from in the first place? Scientific progress is the only way guaranteed to improve human condition, but science must be supplied with ethics, which science itself cannot provide. We need a deeper understanding of what it is to be a human, while also understanding science and technology better than we currently do. Therefore philosophy, that stands with science as a human culture, is the most precious thing.

At Hong Kong Baptist University, I teach Truth and Meaning; Problems of Philosophy; Analytic Philosophy; Life & Death; Cyberworld (Philosophy of Technology); and other topics. My research interests include Theory and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence; Cognitive Science; Logic and Critical Thinking; Clinical Reasoning; History and Philosophy of Science, especially Pragmatism; and Problems of Other Synthetic Minds.

I look forward to welcoming you to the wide range of courses on offer and to embark on the exciting journey of research and discovery across a variety of areas in the human sciences!

Dr. Chan Shing Bun, Benedict 陳成斌博士

**Associate Professor
Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts,
Director, Centre for Applied Ethics**



I received my BSc (Economics and Philosophy) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and MA and PhD (Philosophy) at the University of Maryland-College Park. Before joining Hong Kong Baptist University in 2015, I was an Assistant Professor in the Department of General Education at Hang Seng Management College in 2012-2015, and a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Philosophy and Asian Studies at Tulane University in 2011-2012. My major research areas include Social and Political Philosophy, Applied Ethics and Moral Philosophy, and Comparative Philosophy (Chinese and Western). I am also interested in Global Politics, Chinese Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Mind, and Critical Thinking and Logic. Recently, I am doing research in the Philosophy of Human Rights, Animal Ethics, and Applied Ethics in Public Health.

I have taught a variety of courses in America and Hong Kong, such as Chinese Philosophy, Ethics, Global Politics, Human Rights, Logic, Political Philosophy, and Philosophy of Religion. Course taught include: Human Rights in a Multicultural World; Freedom in Modern Society; The Power of Ideas; Introduction to Ethics; Comparative Philosophy: East and West

In my leisure time, I write extensively in public media. I also like sci-fi movies, hiking and swimming.

Dr. Lee Siu Fan 李少芬博士

Associate Professor



I studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Oxford and obtained my doctoral degree in Philosophy at King's College, London. I had taught in many universities in the UK as well as in Hong Kong before joining the Hong Kong Baptist University.

I am specialized in western analytic philosophy. My research areas are Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Logic, and Philosophy of Mind. I have taught courses in many areas including: Modern Philosophy (especially Descartes and Kant), Metaphysics, Epistemology, Critical Thinking, Logic, Philosophy of Mind, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Wittgenstein, Philosophy of Science and Social Sciences, Ethics, and Applied Ethics.

Courses taught include: Knowledge and Meaning, Problems of Philosophy, Critical Thinking, Nature and Human Beings in Chinese and Western Cultures, Philosophy of Life in Laozi and Zhuangzi, and Philosophy of Life in the Postmodern Age.

I love philosophy because it offers boundless freedom and intellectual excitement. It is not easy to be a serious thinker and we all need training to become one, yet I can assure you from my own experience that once you open the door to enquiry, you and your world will never be the same again.

Having lived in many countries and experienced different kinds of life inside and outside academia, I believe that life is what we make it. Possibilities are endless as long as we do not give up. Let us be inspired! I like traveling, movies, music, comic books and cycling.

Dr. Loke, Andrew T.E. 駱德恩博士

Associate Professor



I was a Research Assistant Professor at The University of Hong Kong before joining HKBU. I earned my Bachelor in Medicine at National University of Singapore, worked for 7 years as a medical doctor, before completing my Master in Philosophy at Biola University and my PhD at King's College, London which covered the disciplines of analytic philosophy of religion, systematic theology and historical-critical studies. I wrote several books including *The Origins of Divine Christology* (Cambridge University Press), *God and Ultimate Origins* (Springer Nature), *A Kryptic Model of the Incarnation* (Routledge), *Science and Christian Faith* (Ethos), 《系統神學》(Systematic Theology; 天道), 《星空背後的真理》(中信), and 《愈辯愈明：從哲學，科學，歷史辯證基督信仰》(天道). In addition, I published articles in leading international peer-reviewed journals such as *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, *Religious Studies* (Cambridge University Press) and *Journal of Theological Studies* (Oxford University Press).



Dr. Boone, Mark

Assistant Professor



I read and talk and write about philosophy for a living. I am also a Baptist Christian. I don't see any conflict between those two things.

I also study and talk about religion, especially Christianity, but my specialization is the history of philosophy. My list of favorite philosophers changes a lot, and Augustine and Plato almost always make the list! Other characters who have spent a good deal of time on the list include Confucius, Aristotle, Aquinas, Leibniz, Locke, Kierkegaard, and William James.

I earned my B. A. in Biblical Studies and Philosophy from Dallas Baptist University in 2005 and my Ph. D. in Philosophy from Baylor University in 2010, writing my dissertation on Augustine. Before joining HKBU I taught at Berry College in Rome, Georgia (USA), for two years, and at Forman Christian College in Lahore, Pakistan, for five years.

I am the author of eight (so far!) scholarly articles in philosophy and religion. These articles deal with Plato, Augustine, William James, epistemology, biblical hermeneutics, and more. My revised dissertation was published in 2016 as *The Conversion and Therapy of Desire: Augustine's Theology of Desire in the Cassiciacum Dialogues*. Years before I had had an idea for another book, which I later co-edited and which was also published in 2016: *Science Fiction Film and the Abolition of Man: Finding C. S. Lewis in Science Fiction Films and Television*.

I manage the YouTube channel TeacherOfPhilosophy. The flagship playlist there is probably the best (and possibly the only) collection of cartoons based on the dialogues and speeches of the great philosophers. There are also more than 150 other videos featuring commentary on great texts of philosophy, great articles in contemporary philosophy, myths about the philosophers, tales of the philosophers, great arguments in philosophy, science fiction and philosophy, and more!

I like things like my wife, good fiction books (like Tolkien), good sci-fi television (like several Star Trek series), good ideas (like the theory ofhylomorphism), and a nice cup of tea.

Dr. Brenner, Andrew

Assistant Professor



I grew up in the United States. After watching the movie *The Matrix* many times I became very interested in philosophy. I got a PhD in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame, and after spending some time working in Sweden and mainland China, I eventually made my way to Hong Kong in early 2020. I am interested in all areas of philosophy, but especially metaphysics, philosophy of religion, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, ethics, and Buddhist philosophy. When I'm not doing philosophy I'm sleeping, eating, playing video games, making electronic music, and petting my dog.



Dr. Checketts, Levi Mahonri

Assistant Professor



I was raised in the Mormon Church (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints), where I was taught the importance of living a morally good life. When I began BA studies at the University of Notre Dame, two life-changing experiences shaped my future. First, my experience with required theology courses helped me deepen my understanding of faith and led me to eventually convert to Roman Catholicism. I double majored in theology and Arabic, but when an atheist friend's curiosity sparked an hours-long discussion, I discovered a passion for teaching as well. I went on to pursue a Master's of Theological Studies in moral theology at Boston College and a PhD in Ethics and Social Theory from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. I believe it's important for teachers to help students discover their own interests in their studies and understand how ethics fits into their own experiences.

I am beginning my career at HKBU this year after working for the past seven years in the San Francisco Bay Area. I have worked with students from varied backgrounds from first-generation undergraduates to mid-career graduate students, and I look forward to bringing this experience to the vibrant city of Hong Kong! As an interdisciplinary ethicist, I like to teach courses that span conversations across philosophy, theology and even the social sciences to help us deepen our understanding of moral problems and the way to address them. Courses I have taught in the past include business ethics, moral choices, philosophy of the human person, human rights, theological studies of technology, industrialization and social ethics, Catholic Social Teaching, and then some! I am excited to start my work at BU teaching environmental ethics in the spring!

I write about ethics of technology, and have published ten articles or book chapters on issues related to transhumanism, artificial intelligence, social media and Mormon-Catholic dialogue. I am currently working on a book on AI and poverty in light of Catholic liberation theology and am republishing a collection of essays on theological studies of technology.

In my spare time, I like touring historical sites, hiking and spending time with my daughter.

Dr. Chu, Ann Gillian 朱安之博士

Assistant Professor



I was born and raised in Hong Kong, and graduated from the University of Edinburgh (UK) with a Master of Arts (Honours) in English Language, a Scottish undergraduate degree and my first degree. In an unexpected turn of events, I landed a graduate job at KPMG, one of the Big Four accounting firms, and worked as a Tax Consultant and subsequently an Assistant Manager (Audit). I gained a variety of accounting experiences, and eventually achieved a FCPA (Fellow of Certified Public Accountant) professional qualification. I then worked as a Treasury Grade civil servant in the Department of Health and the Planning Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government. Life led me to Vancouver (Canada), where I graduated from Regent College with a Master of Divinity, both an academic degree and a vocational training program for aspiring Protestant Christian pastors. I completed my Doctor of Philosophy at the University of St Andrews (UK), and upon graduating, I immediately joined Hong Kong Baptist University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy. In 2022-23, I am also a Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Religion and Public Life, at the School of Philosophy, Religion, and History of Science, at the University of Leeds. Starting in July 2023, I am also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Applied Ethics at Hong Kong Baptist University.

As a FHEA (Fellow of Higher Education Academy), I have extensive teaching experience in Britain, Canada, and Hong Kong, in areas including sociology of religion, theological ethics, transdisciplinary studies, as well as research and study skills. My research interests and teaching areas include sociology of religion, Hong Kong Christianity, theological ethics, political theology, theological anthropology, and Hong Kong studies. My recent academic publications, which are available for free download online, include: Stanley Hauerwas and 'Chan Tai-man': an Analysis of Hong Kong Laypeople's Lived Theology and Hong Kong Theologians' Engagement with Stanley Hauerwas's Political Theology from a Practical Theology Perspective (Practical Theology, 2023) and "If the Gospel We Preach Disregards Human Rights, I Would Rather not Preach This Gospel": Towards a Lived Theology of Hong Kong Churches (co-authored with John Perry, Theology Today, 2023). I also write posts about Hong Kong Christianities, academic events, and academic skills on my Facebook fan page and Instagram (@gillianchuphd).

Having lived on three different continents, I picked up an assortment of hobbies along the way, such as non-competitive horse riding (hunter/jumper) and playing the clarinet (terribly).

Dr. ROBERTSON, Rachel Siow

Assistant Professor



I grew up in Hong Kong and moved to the U.K. for university. I studied my BA (Hons), MPhil, and PhD at the University of Cambridge before working as Director of Studies in Philosophy at St Catharine's College, and as a Research Associate at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. My research and teaching interests are broadly in philosophical anthropology - all things about the human being. For my PhD, I offered a new reading of Immanuel Kant's Critical work, demonstrating the importance of human embodiment for his metaphysics, epistemology, and philosophy of science. My current interest is in how making and using technology impacts on our characters, and how in turn our characters might help us to make and use technology well. My approach is centred around joy, exploring how technology can support us as whole persons in community, rejoicing and flourishing together. I enjoy spending time with family and friends, hiking, cooking, visiting art museums, and listening to music (top tier includes Handel, Taylor Swift).



Rev. Dr. Rooney, James Dominic, OP 倪佳道明神父

Assistant Professor



'Veritas' is the word for 'truth' (真理) in Latin. 'Veritas' is often found on university crests; it's also the motto of the religious order to which I belong: the Dominican Order. My group is a Catholic monastic order which was founded in the Middle Ages (we're over 800-years old!). Our form of monastic life allows us to dedicate ourselves entirely to doing nothing aside from seeking the truth by study and teaching it to others. We see teaching as a work of charity, in fact, more important than feeding the body! You might have heard of some members of my order, such as St. Thomas Aquinas, who were great scholars and professors. While not all Dominicans are university professors, I ended up specializing in philosophy because of my love for two aspects of the field.

On one hand, I am in love with scientific fields like physics and biology, because I think these fields most tell us what the world is like. But I discovered that many problems in science have to do with how to interpret the results. What it is to 'confirm' a theory, or the assumptions we should make about what it is for something to be a 'cause,' or even whether we can know about what things are 'really' like (as opposed to how they appear to our instruments or our senses) are all philosophical issues, not scientific ones. The sub-field of philosophy I work in, 'metaphysics,' studies precisely all these kinds of problems. On the other, I am in love with classical philosophical traditions that unite their theories about the fundamental nature of the world to an account of how human beings should live a good life together. Classical Latin and Greek philosophy started with these questions, as did the classical Chinese tradition. Philosophy was not only a discipline to be studied in school, but a way of life.

It is helpful to recall that being a follower of philosophy, in ancient Greece and Rome (as well as ancient India and China), involved living in a community, wearing special clothing, and following a rule of life. If that sounds like being a monk, you're not far off! All of these practices were taken up by Christian monastics, who thought of themselves as living the true philosophy of Christ, and have influenced how we structure our universities even today. My own sympathies lie with both the Confucian school and that school deriving from Sts. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. Far from 'Confucian-Catholic' being a contradiction, my own view is that these schools both agree, in a deep way, on what the world is like and how we should live.

For me, then, being a philosopher is not only a matter of studying facts, but learning to live in accord with the truth. But the truth doesn't stop us from having fun. I am a big movie buff (as you might discover when I tell you to write papers about movies for my classes), and I can be found whiling away my free time in immersive PC games or listening to R&B, hip-hop, or classical music.

Dr. TURNER, Kevin James 田凱文博士

Assistant Professor



I was born and raised on the west coast of the United States. I grew up playing Japanese video games and watching anime. This began my interest in East Asian culture. Later, when I took a class on world history at college, I was introduced to the Chinese language and was enchanted by Chinese characters. I enrolled in a Chinese language course the next semester and thus began my long adventure learning and experiencing Chinese culture. I did my B.A. at UC Berkeley in Asian Studies where I studied ancient Chinese thought such as Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. After graduating in 2012, I moved to Shenzhen to work before moving to Beijing to studying for my M.Phil. and Ph.D. at Peking University in Chinese Philosophy. My research interests include Confucianism, Daoism, and comparative philosophy.

Hong Kong has a special place in the modern history of Chinese culture as some of the greatest Chinese philosophers such as Tang Junyi and Mou Zongsan lived and worked here. This is why coming to Hong Kong and HKBU has been exciting and fulfilling experience. Hong Kong still occupies an important place today as an important crossroads between Asia and the Western world. The students of Hong Kong require knowledge and skills to move between two cultural spheres so that they can contribute to global human flourishing in a multicultural world. This is why Hong Kong's unique history encourages me to work hard to provide the best learning experience for my students.

Dr. WONG, Baldwin Bon-wah 王邦華博士

Assistant Professor



I grew up in Hong Kong and entered the Chinese University of Hong Kong to do a business undergraduate degree. But I soon discovered that my true interest is not in business. I began to take and sit in various philosophy courses, and had been fascinated by the moral and political philosophical discussions conducted by teachers, focusing on intriguing questions like “Why can someone rule us?”, “Is there something objectively wrong?”, etc., as well as thought experiments like the original position and the trolley problem. After discovering my passion for philosophy, I decided to pursue an academic career. I obtained a MA in Political Philosophy from the University of York, followed by a PhD in Government from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Prior to joining the Hong Kong Baptist University, I taught at various universities, such as the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

My research focuses primarily on Anglo-American political philosophy, with a particular emphasis on topics such as public justification and liberal neutrality. I am also deeply interested in comparative philosophy, particularly in relation to Confucianism. I have long been interested in a philosophical question: how should people, who freely develop vastly different thoughts and often conflict with each other, live together, complement each other, and form a good polity? In my works, I have argued that political liberalism, proposed by the later John Rawls, offers the best philosophical framework for addressing this question at the institutional level. I also believe that Confucianism, as a rich philosophical tradition, has a lot to teach us about how civic virtues should be cultivated in a pluralistic society. As Xunzi (荀子) once said, “There are men who create order; there are no rules creating order of themselves.” (有治人，無治法) A fair and just political system has to be supported by virtuous junzi (君子). Having grown up in a city that seamlessly blends Eastern and Western cultures, I believe that Hong Kong provides an ideal environment for us to learn from a variety of cultural traditions and develop our own unique philosophical perspectives.

I have taught a number of courses in my teaching career, covering mainly political philosophy, Chinese philosophy, normative ethics and applied ethics. I enjoy teaching philosophy by using examples that we encounter in our daily lives. I firmly believe that philosophy is not something that is disconnected from us; rather, it is present everywhere in our lives. During 2022, I received a Teaching Excellence Award from the Hang Seng University of Hong Kong. Additionally, I have been a guest speaker on the public philosophy talk series “哲學有偈傾” on multiple occasions, where I have explored topics such as social contract theory, family justice, and the philosophy of sport.

During my free time, I enjoy jogging, playing with my daughter, and reading Japanese manga. I also have a keen interest in watching football from a tactical perspective. I even wrote a book review for The Mixer, a tactical history of the English Premier League. If you ever want to discuss football or manga, feel free to strike up a conversation with me!

Dr. Wong Pak Hang 黃柏恒博士

Assistant Professor



I am a philosopher of technology with an interest in the social, ethical, and political aspects of new and emerging technologies such as AI and data-driven technologies. I became a philosopher of technology when I stumbled across a research project on digital technology and the good life in a small city in the eastern part of the Netherlands and became part of the project as a researcher. After I earned my doctorate with the project, I spent my life primarily in UK, Europe, and the Nordics: At Oxford University, I was a research fellow for the ethics of climate engineering, and at University of Hamburg, I was a research associate in the research group for Ethics in Information Technology, then I was hired by the H&M Group in Stockholm and Zalando in Berlin as a specialist in the ethics and governance of AI, helping them to better understand and address the ethical and governance issues raised by AI and data-driven technologies that are in use or in planning. In this respect, I have experienced two different but related facets of the ethics and governance of AI—researching the normative issues of AI in a more theoretical manner, and operationalising AI ethics and governance in the companies. While my work in the industry is certainly fun and exciting, I decided that there are many more normative questions raised by AI and data-driven technologies deserving more attention. So, I returned to academia and joined Hong Kong Baptist University as an Assistant Professor to continue my research on the ethics of AI and governance.

Contact us:

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