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# Poli 113A: East Asian Thought in Comparative Perspective

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Summer Session I, 2018

**Professor Victor Magagna**  
Office Hours: MW After Class

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## Overview

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to the East Asian tradition of political theory and action. Course themes include the paradox of proper order, the problem of moral markets, and the issue of lasting legacies.

## Assignments

- The mid-term exam (50% of finals grades) will be available on July 9, and due on July 23, 12PM.
- The final exam (50% of finals grades) will be available on July 20, and due on Aug 3, 1PM.
- Both exams will be 5–6 pages and students will answer one essay question from a list of three.
- Students must submit all essays to [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com). Specific deadlines and submission instructions will be announced when the assignments are uploaded to TritonEd.
- **LATE POLICY:** Assignments not received by the due date will be marked down 5% *per day* automatically. That is, suppose the assignment is due on July 23 at 12PM, then it's one day late no matter if you turn your essay in at 12:01PM on July 23, or at 11:59AM on July 24. If you turn in your assignment at 12PM on July 24, then it's considered two days late. If you turn in your assignment at 12PM on July 25, then it's three days late, etc.

## Readings

You're responsible for completing selected readings in the following books. (Editions do not matter.)

- Xinzhong Yao. 2000. *An Introduction to Confucianism*. Cambridge University Press.
- Wm. Theodore de Bary, and Irene Bloom. 1999. *Sources of Chinese Tradition, Vol. I: From Earliest Times to 1600*. Columbia University Press.

## Grade Scale Conversion

- How to read this table: The “Numeric” column records the *lowest* grade that you need to get a letter grade in the “Letter” column. For example, if you want an A, then you need to get at least 94%. If you want an A–, then you need at least 90%, etc.
- Rounding: We apply rounding by 0.5. That is, if you receive a final grade of 89.5%, then it will be rounded up to 90.0%, which is equivalent to an A–. Similarly, if your final grade is 89.4%, then it will be rounded down to 89.0%, which is equivalent to a B+.

Lowest Numeric Score to Get...			
<i>Letter</i>	<i>Numeric</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Numeric</i>
A+	98	C+	76
A	94	C	73
A–	90	C–	70
B+	86	D	60
B	83	F	<60
B–	80		

## Course Schedule

Note that particular pages will be announced in class.

- Weeks 1–3: Yao
- Weeks 4–5: de Bary, selections from:
  - Confucius
  - Mencius
  - Xun Zi
  - Zhu Xi

## Teaching Assistants

The teaching assistants for Poli 113A are: Thomas Flaherty, Dotan A. Haim, Jiyang Jiang, D.G. Kim, Lucas de Abreu Maia, and Shane Xuan. Office hours with the TAs are by appointment only. Please send your request to [poli113.2018@gmail.com](mailto:poli113.2018@gmail.com). Due to the size of the class, please allow up to three business days for us to reply.

## Email Policy

All emails *must* be directed to [poli113.2018@gmail.com](mailto:poli113.2018@gmail.com). Emails directed to a particular TA will *not* get a reply. Due to the size of the class, please allow up to three business days for us to reply.

## **Absence Policy**

You do not need to let us know if you have to miss a class. However, it's your responsibility to catch up with the class if you decide to miss the class. We do not provide specific tutoring session or office hour just for you if you miss a class.

## **Lecture Notes and Podcast**

Lecture notes will be posted on TritonEd. Podcast will be available at <https://podcast.ucsd.edu/>.

## **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

All of your graded work must be done by you. If you are unfamiliar with the University's policy on academic integrity, please see <https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/>.

## **Extenuating Circumstances**

Exceptions to the published University deadlines and policies could be granted only in extenuating circumstances beyond your control (hospitalization, etc.). Supporting documentation is required. Consult with an academic advisor if you have questions.

## **Additional Resources**

If you need help writing assignments, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the writing center <https://writingcenter.ucsd.edu>.