



Confucius China Studies Program
Confucius Institute Headquarters



School of Philosophy
Beijing Normal University



A Journey into Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization:
Beijing Normal University Philosophy Summer School

July 9-23, 2017

PROGRAM BROCHURE



Beijing Normal University
Philosophy Summer School

Overview

With more than 3000 years of advanced civilization, China has a rich tradition of philosophical thinking and moral reasoning. To enable young students and scholars all around the world to get in touch with Chinese culture, to understand China's contemporary situation, and to develop an interest in Chinese philosophy, the School of Philosophy of Beijing Normal University (BNU) will hold its Philosophy Summer School from July 9th to July 23rd, 2017, on the theme of Daoist Philosophy.



Designed for global university students and young faculty members who are curious about traditional Chinese culture, BNU's Philosophy Summer School has run for two successful sessions in 2015 and 2016. Our invited speakers are world-renowned scholars who offer unique insights into traditional Chinese philosophy and thought-provoking discussions on contemporary China. The Philosophy Summer School also presents a unique opportunity to meet young people from around the world who share a passion to explore the treasures of Chinese civilization. Our Philosophy Summer School enriches philosophical understanding while offering precious memories for both the students and the teachers.

Program Highlights

World-renowned Scholars

Distinguished scholars focusing on the study of traditional Chinese thought will share their unique insights with you!



A Rich Variety of Lectures

Thought-provoking lectures will enable you to better understand Chinese culture and its current situation!



Cultural Experience

Experience the charm of Beijing where ancient wisdom meets modernity by visiting places of historical interest and the city's modern landmarks!



Intercultural Communication

A great opportunity to network and exchange ideas with young people from around the world!



Dynamic Location

The Philosophy Summer School will take place at Beijing Normal University (BNU), a location very close to the city center of Beijing. The Forbidden City is 30 minutes' drive away, while the Bird's Nest (the National Olympic Stadium) can be reached in less than 15 minutes.



Comments from the Previous Students

- “Very inspirational summer school. Have learned a lot which I can apply for the rest of my life.”
- “The summer school really changed my views on China and her culture.”
- “Really enjoyed these days. Going to recommend the summer school to friends.”
- “Campus and city are beautiful!”



About the Organizers

The Confucius Institute Headquarters is a public institution affiliated with the Ministry of Education of China. It is committed to providing teaching resources and services for Chinese language and cultural studies worldwide. It seeks to foster a deeper understanding of China and Chinese culture among younger generations around the world, to promote the development of Confucius Institutes, and to enhance friendly relationships between China and the rest of the world. The Confucius Institute Headquarters is generously providing funding for our BNU Philosophy Summer School through its Young Leaders Fellowship Program.



Beijing Normal University is one of the top universities in China. It was the first university in China to produce Nobel Prize winners. BNU has 16 national key disciplines, and our programs in Education, Psychology, History, Ecology and Geography were all ranked No. 1 in China in the 2013 official ranking by the Ministry of Education.

The School of Philosophy is renowned for its research in Confucianism, Daoism, Yijing studies, Buddhism, as well as Western philosophy. The School also enjoys fruitful collaborations with top overseas universities. It publishes the first English-language philosophy journal from China, *Frontiers of Philosophy in China*, which was graded as “Q2” by SCImago in 2015. Every year the School invites dozens of international scholars to deliver lectures and to attend conferences. We also send large numbers of faculty members and students abroad for international conferences, further training, and academic exchange.



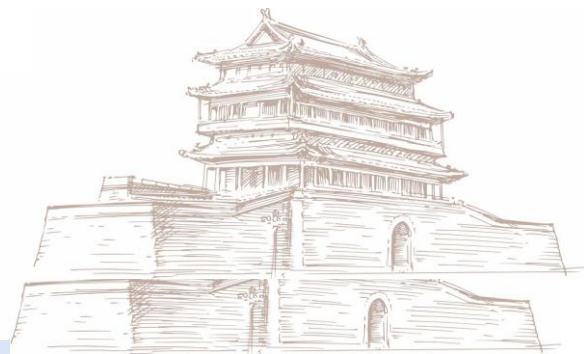
Program Schedule

July 9th		
10:00-22:00	Registration	
July 10 th		Speaker
8:30-9:30	Opening Ceremony & Group Photo	
9:45-11:45	A General Introduction to Daoism	CHEN Guying
14:00-16:30	Approaching the Dao: Philosophy, Religion, and Practice	Thomas Michael
July 11 th		
9:00-11:30	Daoist Twofold Mystery Philosophy	Friederike Assandri
14:00-16:30	The Daoist Conceptions of Nature	LIU Xiaogan
July 12 th		
9:00-11:30	Zhuangzi on Self and Freedom	LI Jinglin
14:00-16:30	The Strategy and Meanings of Silence in Early Daoist Texts	Romain Graziani
17:00-19:00	Cultural Experience (1): Making Chinese Dumplings	
July 13 th		
9:00-11:30	The European Reception of Daoism and the Category of “Religion”	Mark Csikszentmihalyi
14:00-16:30	Sages in <i>Laozi</i> and <i>Zhuangzi</i>	Thomas Michael
July 14 th		
9:00-11:30	Daoism as a Political Philosophy	LIU Xiaogan
14:00-16:30	Should Masters Teach? (On the Nature of Knowledge in Early Daoist Literature)	Romain Graziani
19:00-21:00	Cultural Experience (2): Daoism and Chinese Medicine	LI Yafei
July 15 th		
9:00-11:30	A Visit to Baiyun Guan	
13:00-18:00	A Visit to The Imperial College	
July 16 th		
8:00-16:00	A Visit to the Forbidden City	

July 17 th		
9:00-11:30	Facing Death: The Existential Philosophy of the <i>Zhuangzi</i>	Dennis Schilling
14:00-16:30	Body and Mind in the <i>Zhuangzi</i>	Livia Kohn
July 18 th		
9:00-11:30	Buddhist Concepts in Daoist Scriptures	Friederike Assandri
14:00-16:30	How to Fight Demons: Sacrifice, Exorcism, and Protective Talismans	Mark Csikszentmihalyi
18:30-20:00	Cultural Experience (3): Learning Chinese Calligraphy	
July 19 th		
9:00-11:30	Contemporary Research on Daoism	JIANG Limei
14:00-16:30	The Organization of Life in Ancient China	Dennis Schilling
July 20 th		
9:00-11:30	Daoist Practice: Old and New	QIANG Yu
14:00-16:30	Forms of Daoist Meditation	Livia Kohn
July 21 st		
9:00-11:30	Laozi and Modernity	ZHANG Weiwen
14:00-16:30	Presentations by Representative Participants & Closing Ceremony	
July 22 nd		
08:30-17:00	A Visit to the Great Wall	
July 23 rd		
9:00-12:00	A Visit to 798 Art District and the Bird's Nest	
13:00-18:00	Free Time	
July 24 th		
8:00-22:00	Departure	

Please note: The program schedule may be subject to change. The final schedule will be distributed to participants by July 2017.

About the Speakers



CHEN Guying (陈鼓应)

Peking University

Research Fields: Daoism, History of Chinese Ideologies

Selected Publications:

1. The Philosophy of Zhuangzi
2. The True Character and the Beauty of Human Nature in *Zhuangzi*
3. On the Daoist Academic Context of Zhou Dunyi's Illustration of Tai Chi

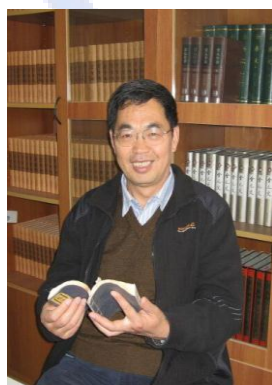
Livia Kohn

Professor Emerita, Boston University

Research Fields: East Asian Studies

Selected Publications:

1. Zhuangzi: Text and Context
2. Daoist Dietetics
3. Daoist Body Cultivation



LI Jinglin (李景林)

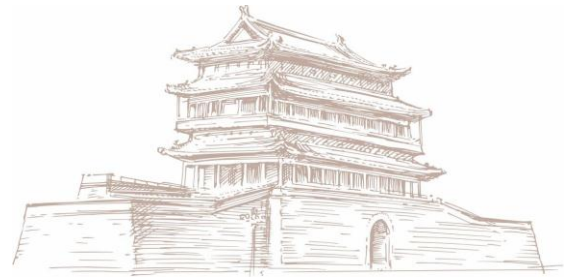
Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Chinese Philosophy (Confucianism and Daoism)

Selected Publications:

1. Confucian Philosophies in Ancient Burial and Sacrificial Ceremonies and Their Ultimate Concern
2. Zhu Xi's Theory of Mind (*xin*) and Its Significance for the Creative Reconstruction of the Theory of Human Nature (*qing*) in Pre-Qin Confucianism (co-authored)
3. "Guo Xue": the Home of Chinese Academic Culture (co-authored)

About the Speakers



Dennis Schilling

Renmin University of China

Research Fields: Chinese Philosophy, Buddhism,
Comparative Philosophy

Selected Publications:

1. Spruch und Zahl: Die Chinesischen Orakelbücher “Kanon des Höchsten Geheimen” (Taixuanjing) und “Wald der Wandlungen” (Yilin) aus der Han-Zeit
2. Zhuang zi: Ethics at Ease
3. Imitatio Confucii: Eine Studie zur Poetologie der Nachahmung in Yáng Xióng’s Fǎ Yán

LIU Xiaogan (刘笑敢)

Professor Emeritus, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Daoist Philosophy, Chinese Religion and Culture

Selected Publications:

1. The Confucian Ren (仁) and Laozi’s Naturalism: A New Insight into the Relationship between Confucianism and Taoism
2. Two Kinds of Xiaoyao (逍遥) and Two Kinds of Freedom
3. On the Identity and Positioning of Chinese Philosophical Studies: A Case Study of Tian-ren-he-yi (Union of Heaven and Man) in Ancient and Modern Times



Thomas Michael

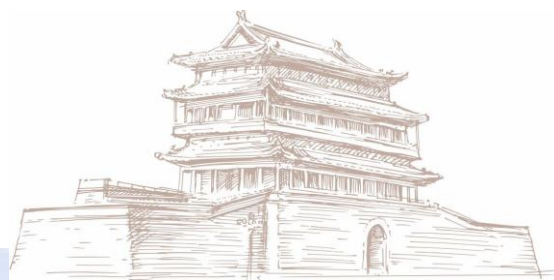
Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Chinese Philosophy, Daoism,
Shamanism

Selected Publications:

1. In the Shadows of the Dao: Laozi, the Sage, and the *Daode Jing*
2. The Pristine Dao: Metaphysics in Early Daoist Discourse
3. “Mountains and Early Daoism in the Writings of Ge Hong”

About the Speakers



ZHANG Weiwen (章伟文)

Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Chinese Philosophy, Daoism, Philosophy of History

Selected Publications:

1. On the Contemporary Meaning of the Chinese Traditional Values
2. A Scrutiny of the Relationship between the Chart of the Former Heaven (Xian Tian)
3. Sequence, Former Heaven Learning, and the Daoist Alchemy Refinery Theory

Friederike Assandri

University of Heidelberg

Research Fields: Daoist-Buddhist Debates, Chongxuanxue

Selected Publications:

1. Beyond The *Daode Jing*: Twofold Mystery In Tang Daoism
2. From Early Tang Court Debates to China's Peaceful Rise
3. Brahman and DAO: Comparative Studies of Indian and Chinese Philosophy and Religion



JIANG Limei (蒋丽梅)

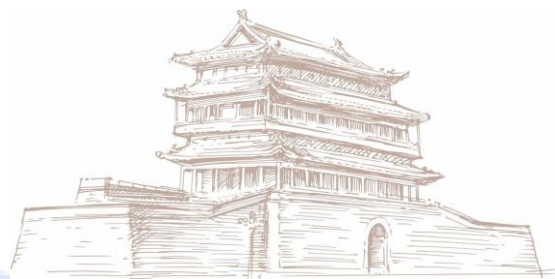
Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Chinese Philosophy, Daoism

Selected Publications:

1. Being and Nothingness of Dao: A Reconsideration of the First Chapter of *Daode Jing*
2. Utmost Tenderness, Utmost Simplicity, and Utmost Emptiness: On Laozi's Concern for Individual Lives
3. The Spirit of Zhuangzi From Wangbi's Xuanxue

About the Speakers



Romain Graziani (葛浩南)

École Normale Supérieure de Lyon

Research Fields: Daoism, Chinese Studies

Selected Publications:

1. Les Corps dans le Taoisme ancien
2. Écrits de Maître Guan. Les Quatre chapitres de l'Art de l'esprit (Xinshu chapters from the Guanzi)
3. Of Self and Spirits. Exploring Shen 神 in China

Mark Csikszentmihalyi

University of California, Berkeley

Research Fields: Religions, Philosophies, and Cultures of Early China

Selected Publications:

1. Material Virtue: Ethics and the Body in Early China
2. Readings in Han Chinese Thought
3. Religious and Philosophical Aspects of the *Laozi* (co-edited)



QIANG Yu (强昱)

Beijing Normal University

Research Fields: Daoism, Buddhism

Selected Publications:

1. The Understanding of Self-so of Cheng Xuanying: The Development from the *Daode Jing* Commentary to the *Zhuangzi* Commentary
2. The Daoist View on Living
3. Cheng Xuanying's Research On "Exploring Thoroughly the Logos and the Intrinsic Character to Get the Natural Regulations"

Place

Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China

Date

July 9th-23rd, 2017

Eligibility

-  Normally under the age of 40
-  Interested in Chinese culture and philosophy
-  Motivated to make positive contributions to the exchange and collaboration between China and the world

How to Apply

Please send the following application materials by April 23rd, 2017 to taoyuan@bnu.edu.cn:

- (1) Scanned information page of passport;
- (2) CV of no more than 3 pages;
- (3) Personal Statement of no more than 2 pages. Please include the reasons why you are interested in our summer school and your academic and social achievements;
- (4) Two letters of recommendation from your current employer or your academic supervisors;
- (5) Completed Application Form for the Young Leaders Program (see the attachment).

Our committee will assess the applications and inform successful applicants by May 17th, 2017.

VISA Information: the applicable visa category for attending the summer school is “L” (tourist visa).

Scholarships

The Confucius Institute Headquarters will provide a number of scholarships from the Young Leaders Fellowship Program to cover round-trip international air tickets, lodging, sightseeing, and medical insurance in China during the BNU Philosophy Summer School 2017.

To apply for the scholarship, please submit the following documents to taoyuan@bnu.edu.cn by April 23rd, 2017:

- (1) A short, separate letter outlining current funding status, financial needs and expected international travel expenses.
- (2) An essay that discusses your interests in and previous study of “Chinese Thought and Modern Civilization” between 500-1000 words. Please note that you need not have any previous study in the topic to be considered for the Summer School.

Completion Certificate

A Completion Certificate will be awarded to participants who successfully complete the Philosophy Summer School.

Program Contact

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Email: taoyuan@bnu.edu.cn



BNU Philosophy Summer School

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Sponsors:  Confucius China Studies Program, Confucius Institute Headquarters

 Beijing Normal University

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