

Course Title	LAH 312 Philosophy East and West	Instructor(s)	Mirja Annalena Holst
		E-mail	
Class Style	Lecture	Office Hours	
Track	Global Liberal Arts	Mode of Instruction	Solo
Credits	2	Allocated Year	3
Active Learning	Category 3 (2, 3, 4) Category 4 (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10)	Compulsory or Elective	Elective
Course Overview	Philosophers in the East and West alike ask fundamental questions about existence and human life: What is the true nature of reality? What is the self? What is the place of human beings in the world? Yet, these questions arise in different contexts and answers often vary in interesting ways. This course explores and compares ideas of Eastern and Western philosophers. It focuses on topics in metaphysics, philosophy of mind, and logic, especially on various forms of dualism and nondualism and issues surrounding self and nonself. Students will examine and reflect upon the ideas of classical and contemporary Eastern and Western philosophers including Dogen, Nishida, Aristotle, and Descartes.		
Course Objectives	The aim of this course is for students (1) to be able to clearly articulate ideas from Eastern and Western philosophies, (2) to be able to recognise similarities and differences between Eastern and Western philosophies, (3) to be able to analyse, extract, compare, and evaluate complex philosophical positions and arguments, (4) to improve their research and writing skills through composing short essays, and (5) to gain a broader perspective on philosophy.		
Prerequisite			
Course Schedule	No	Contents	Homework
	1	Introduction	course overview, syllabus
	2	Descartes's Dualism of Mind and Body	critical reading, interpretation
	3	Descartes's Dualism of Mind and Body	group work, discussion
	4	The Heart Sutra on Emptiness of Selfbeing	critical reading, interpretation
	5	The Heart Sutra on Emptiness of Selfbeing	group work, discussion
	6	Dogen on Forgetting the Self	critical reading, interpretation
	7	Dogen on Forgetting the Self	group work, discussion
	8	Midterm Exam	study for midterm exam
	9	Aristotelian Dualistic Logic	critical reading, interpretation
	10	Aristotelian Dualistic Logic	group work, discussion
	11	The Diamond Sutra and a Nondualistic Logic of Not	critical reading, interpretation
	12	The Diamond Sutra and a Nondualistic Logic of Not	group work, discussion
	13	Nishida on a Logic of Place	critical reading, interpretation
	14	Nishida on a Logic of Place	group work, discussion
		15	Conclusion
		Final Exam	study for final exam
Grading	Participation: 10%, Quizzes: 20%, Midterm Exam: 30%, Final Exam: 40%		
Textbooks	All course materials, including texts, lecture slides, handouts, exercises, and sample solutions, will be available on the course webpage.		
References			
NOTES	This syllabus is subject to change. Any possible changes will be notified to students.		