



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

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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.

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.

Excellence in Liberal Studies

Our programme provides a channel for achieving the higher goals of Liberal Studies, 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.

Excellent Career Opportunity

Besides the opportunity of teaching Liberal Studies or Religious and Ethics in secondary schools, graduates of this programme are well qualified to work in other professions, including social services, media, business, religious organizations as well as civil services.

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



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.

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.

Rich Exposure

Consistent with our emphasis on Whole Person Education, we organize extracurricular learning activities to expand student's 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.

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.

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

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

4-year Programme

For Hong Kong students taking HKDSE for admission via JUPAS, students should obtain at least

- (1) Level 3 in English Language
- (2) Level 3 in Chinese Language
- (3) Level 2 in Mathematics
- (4) Level 2 in Liberal Studies
- (5) Level 2 in one elective subject

Note: Taking two elective subjects in HKDSE is highly preferred

For admission requirements of Non JUPAS applicants, please check the update 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
General Education Courses	31 units
Free Elective Courses	37 units
	128 units

A. Major Core Course (21 units)+Honours Project (6 units)

Students have to take all the required courses below:

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

B. Major Elective Courses (33 units)

Students 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 characteristics of major areas, 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.

			Units
Foundational Branches of Philosophy			
1.	RELI 3007	Philosophy, Meaning and Knowledge	3
2.	RELI 3087	Metaphysics: Quest for Reality	3
Major Areas of Philosophy			
3.	RELI 3095	Logic and Philosophy of Logic	3
4.	RELI 4005	Philosophy of Religion	3
5.	RELI 3056	Philosophy of Mind, Consciousness, and Personal Identity	3
History of Western Philosophy			
6.	RELI 3065	History of Modern Western Philosophy	3
7.	RELI 3096	Contemporary Analytic Philosophy	3
Continental Philosophy			
8.	RELI 3027	Existentialism and Nihilism	3
Chinese Philosophy			
9.	RELI 3006	Major Streams in Chinese Philosophy	3
10.	RELI 4047	Mind in Chinese Buddhist Philosophy	3
Others			
11.	RELI 4016	Selected Topics/ Readings in Philosophical Studies	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 emphasise 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.

			Units
Christian Studies: Foundations & Issues			
1.	RELI 3127	History of Christian Thought	3
2.	RELI 3017	A Survey of Jewish and Christian Scriptures	3
3.	RELI 3026	Christianity, Humanism and the Contemporary World	3
4.	RELI 3037	Christian Spirituality	3
Chinese & World Religions			
5.	RELI 3135	Buddhism	3
6.	RELI 3005	Daoist Religion	3
7.	RELI 3136	Religious Rituals and Practices in Hong Kong	3
8.	RELI 3047	Islam	3
Comparative Religion			
9.	RELI 4025	Christianity and Chinese Culture	3
10.	RELI 4035	Comparative Religious Themes	3
Others			
11.	RELI 4027	Selected Topics/ Readings in Christian Studies or Comparative Religion	3

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.

			Units
Religious Studies & Other Disciplines			
1.	RELI 4037	Sociology of Religion and Modern Society	3
2.	RELI 3097	Psychology and Religion	3
3.	RELI 3105	Anthropology and Religion	3
4.	RELI 4065	Dialogue between Religion and Modern Science	3
Religion & Social Issues			
5.	RELI 4036	Religion and Ideology	3
6.	RELI 3077	Religion and Social Movements	3
7.	RELI 3086	Religion, Violence and Peace	3
Religious, Cultural & Ethical Issues			
8.	RELI 4015	Mysticism and Religious Experience	3
9.	RELI 3075	Religion and Animal	3
Religion in Chinese Contexts			
10.	RELI 3106	Religion and Modern Chinese Societies	3
Others			
11.	RELI 4046	Selected Topics/ Readings in Religious Studies	3

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 characteristics 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.

			Units
Ethical Thought			
1.	RELI 3107	Chinese Moral and Political Philosophy	3
2.	RELI 3016	Philosophy, Morality and Society	3
Ethics, Religious Traditions & Modern Society			
3.	RELI 3115	Theological Ethics	3
4.	RELI 3116	Islamic Values and Contemporary Society	3
Social & Political Thought			
5.	RELI 4066	Ethics of Human Rights: Theories and Controversies	3
6.	RELI 3125	Social Justice, Liberalism and Economic Equality	3
Religion in Chinese Contexts			
7.	RELI 3045	Contemporary Ethical Problems: Hong Kong and Beyond	3
8.	RELI 3117	Service Leadership and Meaning of Life and Death	3
9.	RELI 3126	Theology, Liberalism and Sex in Chinese Societies	3
10.	RELI 4067	Environmental Ethics	3
Others			
11.	RELI 4075	Selected Topics/ Readings in Ethics	3

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 and Liberal 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.

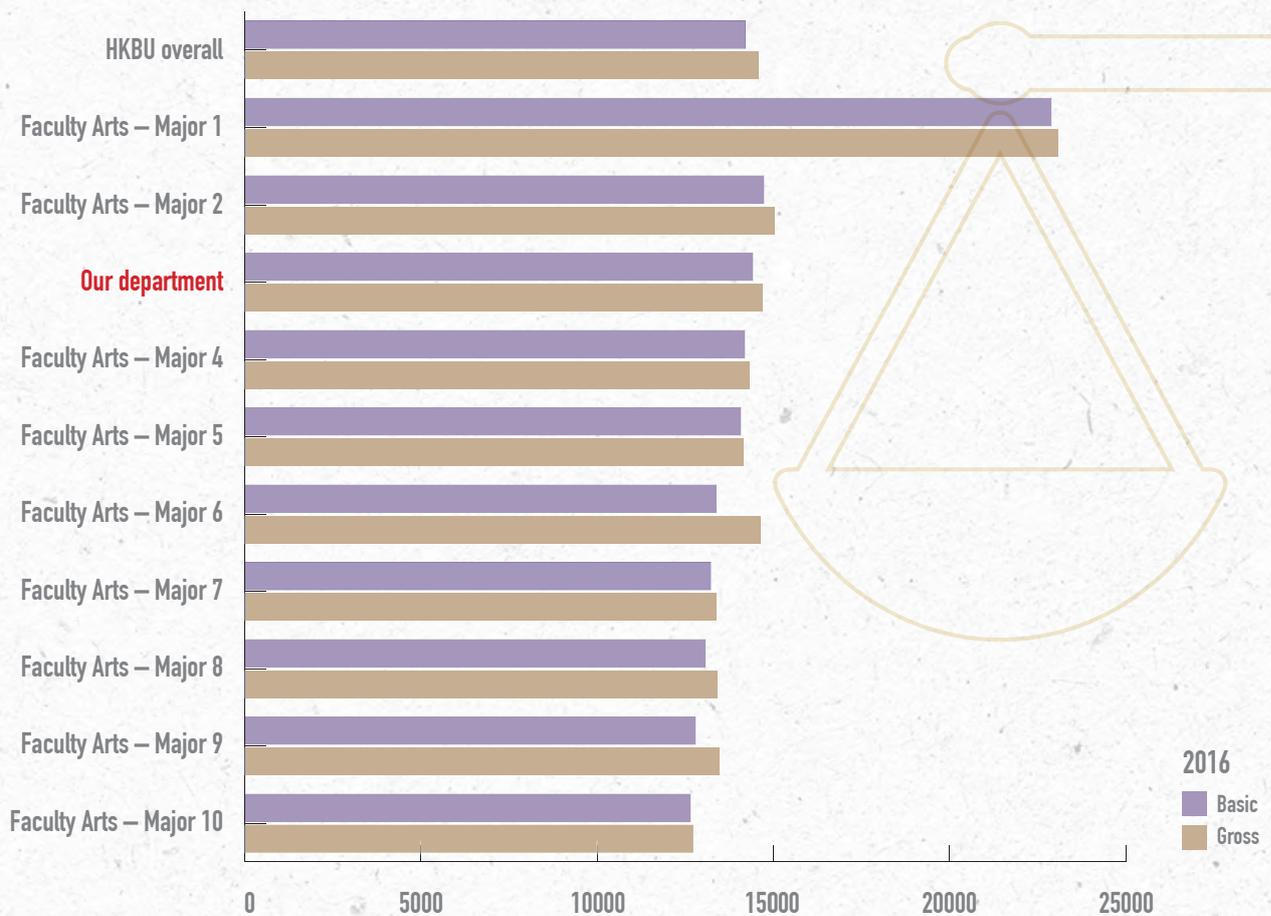
According to the employment survey conducted by the Office of Student Affairs, our graduates have nearly 100% employment rate in recent years. The mean monthly salary of 2016 graduates nearly reached HK\$14,500, ranking the third among all programmes offered by the Faculty of Arts.

Employment survey result of our graduates:

	2014	2015	2016
Commerce/Industry	70%	46%	61%
Government	6%	-	-
Education	12%	15%	20%
Community/Social Services	12%	21%	13%
Others	-	-	-
Further Studies	-	18%	6%



Mean Monthly Salary Statistics of our Full-time Employed Graduates



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.



High Table Dinner



Month of Religion and Philosophy



Symposium and other public lectures



Student Activities

Summer Exchange and 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.





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

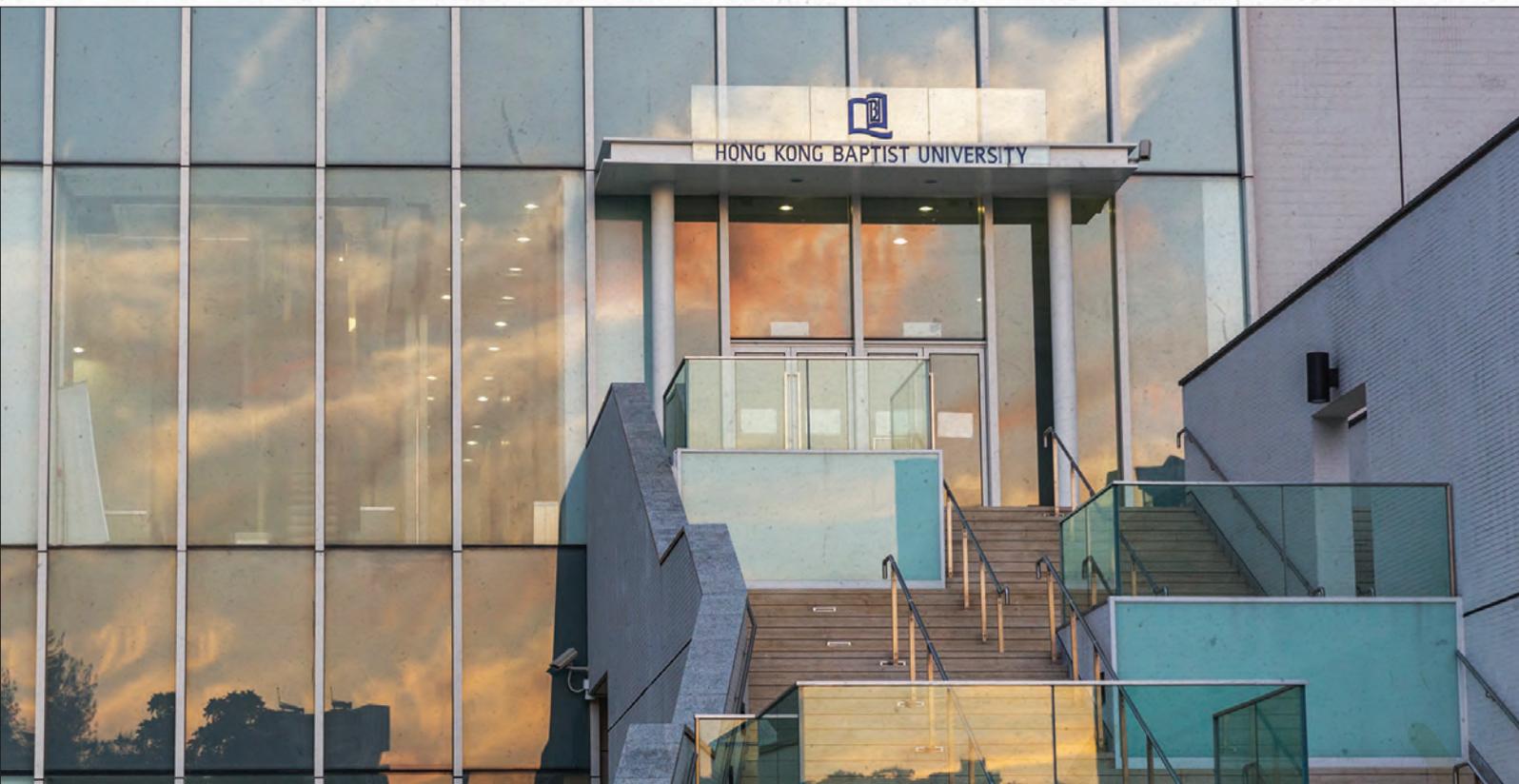
Students can also experience close student-teacher relationship which is unique in our Department. A lot of gatherings and learning opportunities, such as Orientation Day, Chinese New Year gathering, Christmas party, High Tea, Career and CV Writing Workshop etc., will be organized from time to time. 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



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>.

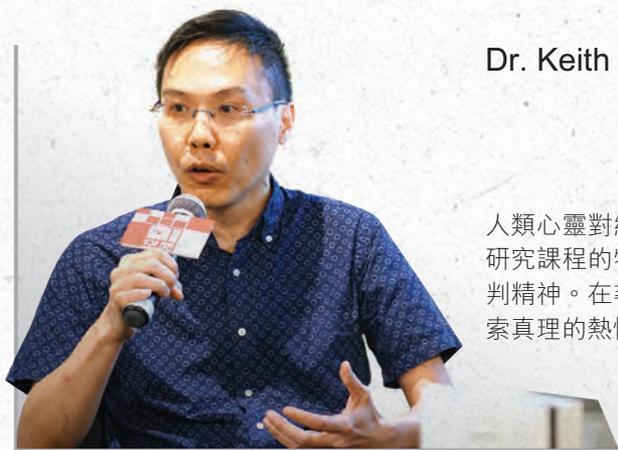
Messages from Alumni



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，一同為考試費煞思量的情景。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」！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考的陷阱當中。而且，我再想追問的是：「哪一份工作是不需要用到人的頭腦？哪一位老闆是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」，但最起碼自己不是成為「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。



Dr. Keith Chan 陳家富博士 | BA (Hons) 1991

曾任香港浸會大學宗教及哲學系講師
香港中文大學崇基學院
宗教及中國社會研究中心副研究員

人類心靈對終極真實的智性追求，並就人類文明作理性批判的反思。宗教研究課程的特質正好為廿一世紀這個紛亂的時代開拓廣泛的人文視野和批判精神。在尋索宗教傳統的睿見中，抱著對話理性開放的態度，仍堅持探索真理的熱情，都是宗教研究專業的精神所在。

Ching Wai Kuen John 程衛權 | BA (Hons) 2005
中聖書院副學務主任、通識教育科主任

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。



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.

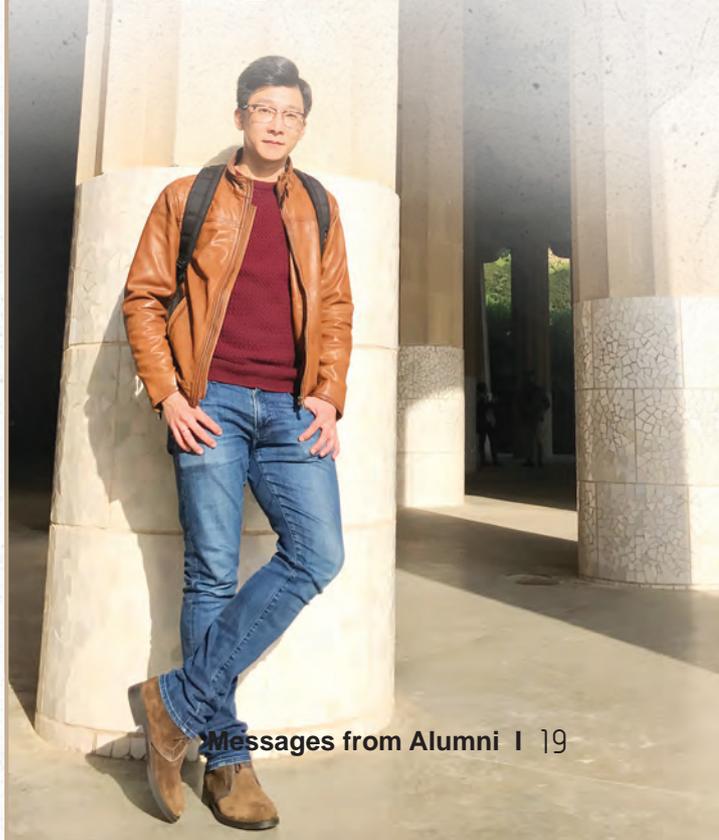
Law Wing Leung 羅永亮
BA (Hons) 2007
M.Phil 2010
曾任運輸事務主任

「生命有限，思想無限。」

這是一位教授在授課時與學生分享的一句話，簡潔且畢生受用。

入讀宗教哲學系是我正式開始探索世界和思考人生的起點。人生在世，雖然有不少問題難以解答，但尋求真理的過程已很有意義，因為在過程中你會敏感於有趣的人事物，以及培養出各項特質。

在人生的不同階段，人們或許有各種人生目標。我相信終點應是「止於至善、至真、至美」。



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。



Dr. Lui Yue Chun, Matthew 呂宇俊博士

BA (Hons) 1999 一級榮譽
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，今天「通識教育科」成了必修科，而這科需要的技巧正是我在宗哲系三年來所習得的。



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！



Ng Cham Hung 吳湛鴻 | BA (Hons) 2007
香港大學社會學博士生

由小開始，我已經喜歡思考，但不愛讀書。由小學開始，我的考試成績只屬一般，公開試成績亦僅僅足夠進入大學。

和絕大部分學生一樣，在選科的時候沒有確實方向。不過，我是一個喜歡依喜好行事的人。既然喜歡思考，又想追尋人生，所以選了宗哲系。

宗哲系為學生提供了一個非常自由的思考空間。不少奇怪的問題，也會找到討論對象。在三年的學習中，我不單接觸到很多種有趣的想法，亦漸漸地建立了開放的聆聽態度。宗哲系的課程涵蓋面相當廣泛，包括世界主流宗教、哲學及社會科學。這種課程設計，令我對不少的文化傳統和學科也有一些基本認識。

在轉型到社會學的時候，我亦不需從零開始，因為宗教社會學的科目已經提供了社會科學研究的基礎。哲學課則提升了我的哲學思辨能力，讓我可以從不同的角度及層次思考。宗教課除了讓我可以反思自身的信仰，也擴闊我對不同文化的認識。

宗哲系的畢業生沒有高薪厚職的保證，但宗哲系的畢業生都很有自己一套，能夠建立自己的想法，在人生的路途沒有那麼容易動搖。面對職場的需求及全球研究生的挑戰，多年的訓練在不知不覺中，給予我相當的競爭優勢。

宗哲系讓我找到理想，亦在這段人生旅途，提供了我需要的知識與能力。



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！



Michelle Tsang 曾詠雪 | BA (Hons) 2014

倫敦大學法律系學生



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，息矣，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，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，將來不論在任何一个行業發展必定終生受用。



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。我相信宗教和哲學絕對能滿足經常愛問「為什麼？」的人！

Zhao Wenqing 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，我都很感謝宗哲系為我提供了扎實豐富的本科教育。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，東西互鑒。

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。



Internship

Chow Hei Lam 周晞琳

BA (Hons) 2014

實習機構：鴻福堂集團公關及宣傳部

實習日期：24/6/2014-25/7/2014

我在鴻福堂集團有限公司進行了為期一個月的實習，公司安排我在公關及宣傳部工作，主要負責一個涼茶文化館的規劃，我需要比較及參考其他類似的展覽館，再結合自己創意，從而提出各方面的建議，包括其中一個展區的內容和設計、如何提升展館的互動性、如何增強展館的宣傳以及紀念品的構思等等。除了負責這個主要的項目外，我還需要協助同事處理其他工作。首先是新聞的資料搜集和整理，我需要剪下每天有關鴻福堂公司的報章新聞，再作整理，以供公司高層閱讀之用。第二是致電記者，查詢他們的資料，以更新公司的媒體聯絡資料庫。其餘便是組裝禮物和碎紙等雜務。

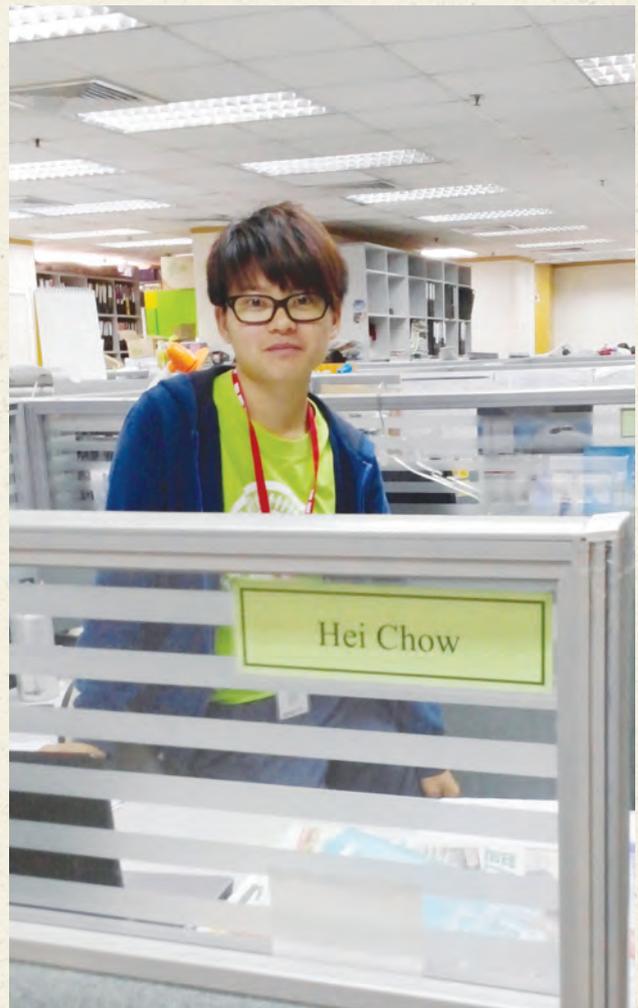
在努力完成涼茶文化館計劃書的過程中，有一些心態的轉變，亦有些關於工作的體會。在剛入職時，正好是臨近公司上市的大日子，同事忙得沒有時間與我討論，在不掌握文化館確實資料的情況下，唯有漫無目的地在網海中搜尋，沒有目標，也沒有任務讓我去完成，並沒有成功感。後來，要搜尋的也搜尋了，整天閒著沒事幹，就看看公司從前的資料，了解同事平常有什麼工作，無意中看到很多有關司徒先生（公司執行董事）的訪問。他的訪談都很有正能量，當中最印象深刻是一句是：「創意是從沉悶而來。」我正正是在極度沉悶的情況中！所以，當時的我決定不斷發掘所有我可以做的和了解的，如透過報章去了解上市是什麼，以及整理公關部門的工作內容等。

公司上市後，同事便多與我討論文化館的事情，我了解到所需要負責的工作，便有方向和動力去完成我的任務。在過程中，我不斷構思各種手法，希望令文化館有更多創新的元素，也希望想法被同事所肯定。但是，我也知道我和同事所考慮的因素不盡相同，我固然可以天馬行空地構思，相反，他們清楚很多限制，例如財政預算、工作量等，心中很可能已盤算著一個絕對可行的計劃。我在想，能在現實中打破框框，而又不脫離現實，當中的考慮和衡量取捨必定很有價值，是十分高超的創意！

在搜集公司的新聞時，我也有所學習。當時公司遇上不少問題，外面有很多負面新聞，而碰巧公司剛剛上市，如何挽回公司的形象變得至關重要。懂得審時度勢的前提是要深入了解事態發展，知道別人怎樣想你，知道自

己仍掌握什麼，整理有關公司的新聞便有這個作用。知道公司的形勢有助作出到位的決定，這些決定在公司處於劣勢的時候尤為重要。

這次實習時間雖然不長，但卻給予我一次深刻的工作體驗，讓我初嚐工作生活的滋味，也令我了解到公關及宣傳部門的工作，實在值得。



Yee Wai Sze Celia 余慧詩

BA (Hons) 2014

實習機構：張超雄議員辦事處

實習日期：1/7/2014-26/8/2014



今年暑假十分充實，我剛從台灣完成交換生計劃就回港參加本系為期兩個月的暑期實習計劃。七月到八月期間，我在工黨立法會議員張超雄議員的辦事處擔任研究助理。我的工作主要是更新張超雄議員的網誌，整理立法會文件和數據。過程中，我了解到很多張議員關心的社福政策，例如特殊教育政策，同時也認識到很多不同政策的細節，例如不同種類的綜援和殘疾人士服務等等。

除此之外，張議員的助理也讓我跟進了幾個不同的社會議題：現行強積金制度的利弊，全民退保的推行。在跟進全民退保期間，我深深體會到香港社會貧窮問題的嚴重性，長者的生活困難，以及年輕新一代供養父母的壓力。除此之外，從政府推動全民退保的態度，我完全感受到政府對民間疾苦視若無睹，也知道泛民議員身處議會內的無力感。

實習前，我早已聽聞不少朋友對張超雄議員的好評價，經過這次實習，我十分認同張議員是個理念與實踐並行的人。兩個月以來，其中一件讓我最難忘的事情，就是關於金鐘海富中心大家樂快餐店智障員工被虐待的事件。張議員的助理多是社工，平常會幫忙處理一些社會福利申請和關於社會不公的投訴。當那名智障快餐店員工被虐待的事件被登上報紙後，張議員立即請同事寄信去各個單位投訴。後來，同事收到有關單位的回覆，張議員看過後，立即說：「這個回覆我不能接受，一定不能放過他們（指有份虐待員工的人），我們一定要繼續跟進直至他們願意正面處理事件。」張議員的反應令我相信，他是真心為了殘疾人士爭取權益，希望打擊所有社會上不公義的事。曾經聽說過議會內有不少只著緊選票的「政棍」，總以為寄了一封信，擺了個姿態便算處理好事件，張議員卻要為該名受害者討回公道，而不是草草了事。

另外，實習過程中，我也曾經幾次跟工黨去示威遊行，例如是七一籌款及爭取取消功能組別等，我的主觀印象是，張議員對於這些政治宣傳都沒有太大興趣，反而他更希望多投放時間去探訪，和跟不同團體見面，使我相信張議員是個實事求是的人。我曾經跟張議員到馬鞍山探訪獨居殘疾人士，發覺張議員很有耐性，他也十分了解殘疾人士在社區和生活上遇到的困難，例如社會上有很多公共設施都對殘疾人士相當不便。他也主動安排馬鞍山區的家長和小朋友參觀立法會，更安排時間親自與他們對話，聆聽基層市民所面對的生活壓力。

這次實習打消了我曾經萌生過的從政的念頭。因為兩個月當中我看見了很多制度上的阻撓，及身為政治人物的無可奈何。但我卻非常欣賞張議員及一群社工同事為殘疾人士及其他基層人士的付出，雖然在制度的限制裡，他們的努力似是徒勞無功，但他們為民請命的精神卻令人鼓舞，而我就是被影響的其中一個。

Lam Chiu Ping 林翠萍

BA (Hons) 2016

實習機構：從心會社

實習日期：16/6/2015-25/8/2015



雖然我在從心會社實習的時間不算太長，但整個實習過程令我獲益良多。吳思源先生（從心會社主席）給予我很多學習的機會。例如採訪作家、參觀及協助舉行安息禮、協助簡單的編輯工作。

吳先生非常信任我，即使我沒有甚麼採訪經驗，他仍放心讓我單獨去採訪新書發佈會，並且寫一篇相關的報導。我覺得這是一個很珍貴和富挑戰性的任務，相信在別處很難會遇到一個願意讓我學習，而且不怕我做錯事搞砸的上司。

因為吳先生也是愛百合有限公司牧養總監及完美句號基金會執行董事的緣故，我有機會參觀及協助這兩間公司提供的殯儀服務，甚至能夠在旁直擊化妝師如何幫死者化妝換衣。看見同事為每一個喪禮構思主題及程序、佈

置場地和撰寫述史，我明白無論對死者還是家屬，舉行一個好的喪禮是一件很重要的事。旁觀了幾次安息禮，我覺得某程度上，一個人對殯儀工作的態度，代表著他對尊重生命的態度。

最後，我覺得這次實習對我為人處世也有很多幫助。因為工作原因，我需要參加一個一連十三堂的課程。該課程每週都會邀請不同講者教導基督徒聽眾如何去關懷他人。雖然我沒有宗教信仰，但我必須承認很多內容都值得我學習。很多道理並不難理解，但我以前很少能坐下來靜靜思考自己做得是否正確，做得是否足夠。這次的實習真好給予我一個機會去好好反省。

總括而言，我覺得這次實習非常有意義，我很慶幸自己曾經有機會在從心會社實習。

Pang Hiu Yu 彭曉瑜

BA (Hons) 2016

實習機構：香港公平貿易動力

實習日期：8/7/2015-22/8/2015



今年暑假，我到了一間以推動公平貿易運動為使命的社會企業「香港公平貿易動力」的品牌——「公平點」實習。一個多月的時間雖然不算長，但學到和體會到的東西比我預期的多、受到不少啟發，亦令我更清楚自己未來的職業路向。

當初選擇到公平點實習是因為我十分認同他們的理念：保障工農，致力使生產者得到公平回報和責任消費帶來改變。常言道，「一分耕耘，一分收穫」，但一些貧窮和弱勢生產者付出了十分的耕耘，卻得不到他們應得的收穫；他們辛勞地耕作、收割，最後因受中介機構的剝削而只能換取極微薄的收入，甚至連成本也收不回，難以維持基本生計。待人要公平、處事要公正雖是老生常談，但面對利益和利潤時，真正做到公平、顧及商業道德的人又有多少？而公平貿易正正能扭轉這種不公義，保障他們的權利、改善他們的生計、還他們一個公道；更重要的是協助他們重拾尊嚴，不再活在剝削和欺壓之下。

在香港這個商業社會中，肯為理想、為公義站出來的人著實不多，公平點對社會的使命感、不平則鳴的勇氣和堅持令我敬佩。的確，他們的資源不及大企業多、人手不及大企業充裕，但他們的人情味卻絕不比大企業少。坦白說，公平點並非能提供高薪厚職的地方，同事們全都是因著理念而在這裡工作；在實習期間，我曾到門市

和工作坊幫忙，同事們全都十分友善，更得知其中一位導師是香港公平貿易動力總監的老朋友，因此替公平點擔當導師，使我覺得公平點是個有人情味的地方。

我本是個沒太大決心的人，有時候訂立了目標卻沒有勇氣或恆心去實踐；然而，公平點對社會公義的堅持令我體會到只要敢於追夢，定能看見理想的彼岸。完成實習後，對公平貿易多了認識、了解到更多生產者的故事，我以後也會盡量光顧社企和購買公平貿易產品，因為我購買的不只是一件貨品，背後更有一份公義、一份人情味、一份抱負。

在實習前，我並不清楚自己的職業路向，但完成實習後，我有了清晰的方向。這次實習令我明白到我喜歡在非政府組織 (NGO) 工作，因為它們以社會的善與公義為目標和宗旨，背負著一份價值觀和理念。很慶幸這個實習計劃讓我有機會在公平點工作，我親身體驗到 NGO 的運作、加深了對公平貿易的認識，並學習到很多價值觀；這不但令我認清了自己的路向，更使我反思究竟何謂「平等」和「公義」。

Student Exchange

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。

獨居自有所思 閒時任意遨遊

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 Shuk Yi Christy 黃淑意
BA (Hons) 2012

Going there with nothing, and bringing a lot back—once life time experience in Sogang University, South Korea

Ar-nae-yo-hak-se-yo!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Studying abroad is one of my goals that I want to achieve in my university life. Thankfully, I got enough GPA for it. And out of my expectation, I was assigned to go to South Korea which wasn't in my choices.

Before I went there, unlike the other exchange students, I don't fancy with any Korean K-pop & Korean culture, I don't even know one sentence of Korean. I went there with my suitcase only, nothing else.

My flight was on 230pm. I went to airport alone, I took the plane alone, I had the meal alone. Everything was so fresh and exciting. It was my first time going somewhere completely strange alone. I did looking forward to everything would happen in the coming semester. I arrived Incheon International Airport at 7pm. Then I need to find a way to the hostel. I would never forget my adventure on the first night: I got lost. I got lost somewhere near my university. I spent almost three hours on finding the right way. At that moment, language became my great difficulties. People in Korea don't really speak English and I don't speak any Korean either. Even though I had to ask for the direction, we couldn't really understand each other. We used body languages & maps. It was so much fun to communicate with the friendly strangers in this way.

That was my first night in Korea. For the coming four months, life was so awesome. I met awesome friends from different part of the world. We hanged out together all the time, we shared sandiness and happiness, we always spent the whole afternoon with a cup of coffee, and we always went parties. I did have homesick on the second month, but my awesome



friends made me feel like being at home. I travelled a lot in Korea. I learned Korean. I also met Korean friends. I spent the most wonderful part of my university life in this exchange semester. Time flies. Still, it reached the time to say goodbye. Everything flashes back in a second. This exchange experience changed my attitude towards life, which was out of my plan. I used to focus on tiny things, but not necessary. I used to look for achievement, but too much. Spending four months in Korea makes me understand who truly I am. Most importantly, I enjoy my life more than ever!

My choices to study abroad were only USA and Taiwan, eventually, I got South Korea. People may say, it is a pity that you can't get the first choice. But you know, surprises always come to you life in a special way that you never know. I am glad that I wasn't assigned to USA or Taiwan. It is because going somewhere with unknown language is so much fun. I went there with nothing, not even a sentence of greetings in Korean, but eventually, I brought a lot home. The awesome friends I meet that I will keep them forever; the unforgettable memories I have, and the new way I see the world, are all my treasures.

There were so much great experience in Korea, I can't share all of them to you in this short article. Check my photos, and you will feel how awesome my experience was!

Finally, I want to thank you my department, Department of Religion & Philosophy, and the International Office grant me this opportunity to study abroad! Last word to freshmen or junior students, there are a lot of chances in university, if you want some difference in your life, don't hesitate to grasp it. Once you grasp it, ENJOY IT WHATEVER IT IS.



A Letter from Sweden

I am writing from Sweden in northern Europe, where I attend classes in the Ethics and Philosophy programme at Linköping University. Linköping does not offer Ethics and Philosophy at the undergraduate level, so for my exchange programme, I have been taking classes with postgraduate students instead. These classes have offered me an opportunity to delve more deeply into some of the most pressing issues of the day. With the recent, massive refugee flow towards Europe, for example, Sweden has become one of the most desired destinations. In our classes, we have discussed our thoughts and ideas on the refugee problem by adopting theoretical approaches. We have also been looking at biomedical ethics. The topic is not new to me, as I took a similar course back in Hong Kong. Here, however, we discuss more specific topics like euthanasia. Throughout these courses, students from all over the world present laws and regulations regarding issues in their home countries. In this manner, we can approach the study of these policies from both theoretical and cross-cultural perspectives.

The arrangement of courses here at Linköping University is indeed special. Every regular course that we take lasts for only three to four weeks, which allows us to focus intensively on the topic at hand. The next course only begins after the final examination of the previous course. This flexible timetable gives me a lot of freedom in planning trips. So far, I have been to twenty countries in the region, allowing me many experiences.

It may appear cool to imagine someone traveling around with a big backpack, but the truth is that I have suffered setbacks in my first experience traveling like this. In one case, I took the overnight coach from Düsseldorf to Hamburg after visiting a friend, hoping to catch the early train to Copenhagen and eventually to Linköping. I arrived at the platform only to find that the train was canceled due to the closing of the Danish border. I instantly booked a flight to Stockholm, transiting in Brussels. But because of the late arrival of the previous flight, my flight was delayed. When the flight attendant broadcast the transiting gates, I did not hear mine. The attendant then came to me with the news that I missed my flight and that I might have to spend the night at the airport with a four Euro drinking voucher as a form of apology. I went straight to

the airport restroom after landing, where I cried out of frustration. Fortunately, there were available seats on the seven o'clock flight that night, so I would be able to catch the eleven-thirty train and arrive in Linköping at one thirty in the morning. When I finally made my way to Stockholm Central Station, however, I let my guard down and mistook the departure time, forcing me to miss the train! Now I was officially homeless. I had to spend the night in McDonald's next to some homeless guys, where I talked to a man from Ghana until I was able to get on a train at five in the morning. With all the mishaps, I still did not dare to rest until my arrival, for fear I might miss the station.

This is not the first time I have left home for my studies, so I consider myself to be independent and culturally adaptable. To my surprise, however, I have found myself greatly craving for Chinese literature, music, and food this time. I take it that we only realize how homesick we are when we start to miss the food. Despite the lack of food from my hometown in Hong Kong, Char Siu is always only a matter of a few stairs away. For the first half of my time in Sweden, I had fun making meatballs with locals and holding bimonthly International Kitchen dinners with other exchange students. But after just a few months, I already found myself going out of my way to find Chinese food, such as walking one and half hours for a bowl of sticky rice when I was in Prague. After Chinese New Year, I equipped myself with all the necessities for making Chinese cuisine and started my own, personal canteen. I would never have believed that I was capable of cooking Sweet and Sour Spare Ribs, Taro Balls with Red Bean Soup, or even Tea Eggs a year ago. Now my friends from HKBU and I are constantly in the mood for cooking, so we hang out in local markets and cook for ourselves when we travel. For my birthday this year, I invited friends from Sweden, India, and Taiwan to have hotpot. On these occasions, we share stories of food and many other subjects until one in the morning.



Student Achievements



Lui Yue Chun, Matthew 呂宇俊 BA (Hons) 1999

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



SUN Meng 孫萌 BA (Hons) 2018

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



Cai Hao 蔡昊 BA (Hons) 2018

Best delegate, Model European Union 2013



Chan Chun Wai 陳俊瑋 Current student

Championship in the Tertiary Institution Class,
The Neway of Life Lyric Writing Competition 2015



Xu Shi Ying 徐詩穎 BA (Hons) 2017

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

香港中文大學

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. Zhang, Ellen Y. 張穎博士

Head, Department of Religion and Philosophy
Associate Professor
Associate Director, MA in Ethics and Public Affairs

After receiving an MA degree in Comparative Literature (Drama) from Renmin University and having two years of teaching experience at Tsinghua University in Beijing, I went to Rice University (Houston, Texas) and obtained my doctoral degree in Philosophy of Religion. I had been living in the USA for a very long time, and taught at Temple University (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) for years before I miraculously ended up in Hong Kong in 2007.

Born into a family of college professors, I am one who enjoys teaching and interacting with students. Meanwhile, I have developed an intellectual curiosity in many things (maybe too many!). My research interests include: Comparative Philosophy of Religion; Chinese Philosophy; Ethics, Hermeneutics: East and West; Women, Gender, and Religion.

Courses taught include: Philosophy of Life in Laozi and Zhuangzi; Existentialism and Nihilism; Philosophical Issues in Chinese Religion; Comparative Philosophy: East and West; Applied Ethics, Daoist Religion; Buddhism; Chinese Religions in Northwest China, etc.

In my leisure time, I enjoy traveling, listening to European operas, crafting, antiques collecting, gardening, and cooking. My definition of “happiness” is listening to Maria Callas’ interpretation of Puccini’s arias such as “Vissi d’arte” and “Si. Mi chiamano Mimi”, while working on a couple of new “fusion” recipes I’ve just created. I have been contemplating on writing a book entitled Philosophy of Food for many years. Hope I can get it done some day.



Prof. Chan, Shun Hing 陳慎慶教授

Professor

There are many approaches to the study of religion, one of which is sociology.

I am a sociologist of religion. My research interests focus on the social theories of religion, and religion in Hong Kong and Mainland China. In recent years, I published articles on church-state relations in China, and Christians' involvement in the Umbrella Movement in Hong Kong. My edited book “諸神嘉年華：香港宗教研究” (Oxford University Press, 2002) is now a popular textbook used by sociologists and anthropologists in their courses related to religions in Hong Kong.

I like teaching very much. Through my lectures, I encourage my students to conduct field research into how religion affects the daily lives of Hong Kong people. My students have conducted research projects on mainstream religions, the practices of folk religions, religious minorities, new religions, and the relationship between religion and democracy, politics and gender. Some students published their papers in *Ching Feng*, *女學學誌*, *輔仁宗教研究*, *田野與文獻*, and some won thesis awards in different competitions.

Courses taught include: Social Scientific Study of Religion; Religious Rituals and Practices in Hong Kong; Religion and Social Movement; Religion and Modern Society; Religion and Ideology; Ethical Controversies in Hong Kong Today; and Globalization and Ethics.

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. Lo, Ping Cheung 羅秉祥教授

Professor
Director, Centre for Applied Ethics

After graduating from the National Taiwan University, major in Philosophy, I spent 10 years in the USA as a postgraduate student. I studied very hard and earned two PhD degrees, first in Philosophy (State University of New York) and then in Religious Studies (Yale University). My research areas are in applied ethics and religious ethics.

I continue to have an intellectual curiosity in many things and have a personal collection of more than 15,000 books. I am not a book worm, though, and enjoy family time, watch Blu-ray videos before going to bed, and love Western classical music. I sang in the chorus of the Opera Hong Kong's production of Faust (2014), sang with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Choir in the concert of Haydn's Creation (2015), sang a solo (from Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro) and a duet (from Mozart's Don Giovanni) in a recital (2016), and sang in the choir in the concert of Revelation 2017, composed and conducted by Huang Anlun 黃安倫, my apartment-mate when both of us were studying at Yale.

I especially enjoy teaching students, regardless of their past success or failure in public examinations, who have an intense intellectual curiosity, and who believe that learning can change one's destiny.

I have published several ethics books which were used as textbooks for F. 6 Ethics class, such as 《繁星與道德》、《生死男女》、《黑白分明》、《自由社會的道德底線》。

Undergraduate courses taught include: Contemporary Moral Problems, Applied Ethics, Introduction to Christianity and Civilizations, and Christian Social Thought.

Hobbies: educational travel, photography with full-frame camera (Sony A7 Mark II), and singing (solo and chorus).

Prof. Palmquist, Stephen 龐思奮教授

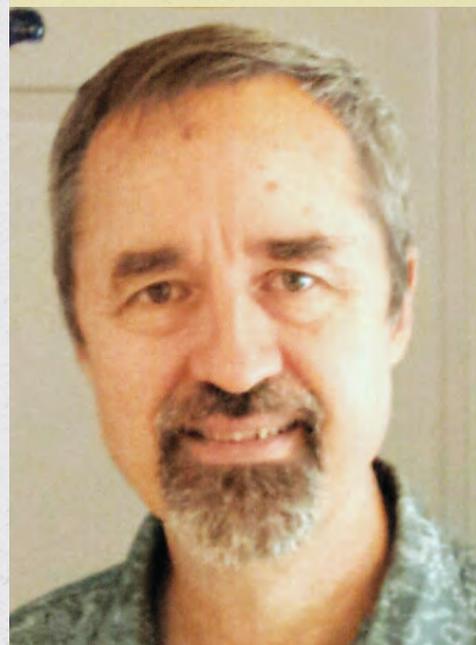
Professor

"Philosophy is the discipline of seeking wisdom through the insights we gain in conversations with our friends." This statement, from *The Waters of Love*, one of three textbooks I have written, embodies my approach to teaching. Most of my classes include small group tutorials, often meeting in my office, where students can share their ideas and challenge each others' thinking in a friendly context. My classes focus on fundamental questions, such as: "Who am I?", "What is the meaning of love?", "How is it possible to experience transcendent reality?", and "What does it mean to be religious?"

After receiving my doctorate from Oxford University in 1987 with a dissertation on Immanuel Kant's philosophy, my research has continued to focus mainly on Kant. Among my 160+ publications are ten books, including (most recently) *Cultivating Personhood: Kant and Asian Philosophy* (2010) and *Comprehensive Commentary on Kant's Religion within the Bounds of Bare Reason* (2015). My other research interests include Carl Jung's psychology (especially dream interpretation), the theology of politics, and a new system of mapping logical relations onto geometrical figures, called the Geometry of Logic. My award winning web site is listed near the top of most search engine listings for "Kant".

In my spare time I enjoy gardening, interpreting dreams, and hill walking. In 1999 I founded the Hong Kong Philosophy Cafe, whose several branches hold regular (free!) meetings for the general public to discuss a variety of philosophical topics.

Courses taught include: Philosophy of Religion; Dream Interpretation for Personal Growth; Romantic Love in Humanistic Perspectives; Existence and Reality; and Mysticism and Religious Experience.





Dr. Harris, Eirik Lang

Associate Professor

My first exposure to philosophy came as an undergraduate PPE (Philosophy, Politics, & Economics) major. I was drawn first into ethics and political philosophy as I looked for answers to the questions I had about how I should live my life – both as an individual and as a member of a broader community. I initially entered graduate school to more deeply examine these questions from within the Western framework, but over time became more and more interested in better understanding the various answers that a wide range of Chinese thinkers provided. This led me, after receiving an MA in philosophy, to get another MA in Asian Languages & Cultures and then spend a year each at Tsinghua University in Beijing and National Taiwan University in Taipei. This was followed by my return to a philosophy department, where I received my PhD for a dissertation examining the appropriate role that morality should play in the political sphere and focused on the ideas of Xunzi 荀子 and Han Feizi 韓非子.

I have published numerous articles and book chapters on Chinese and comparative philosophy, and recently published a book with Columbia University press on the little known Chinese thinker Shen Dao 慎到, entitled, *The Shenzi Fragments: A Philosophical Analysis and Translation*. I'm currently finishing a book on Han Feizi's political philosophy.

My teaching interests include Chinese and comparative philosophy, ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of law, and philosophy of religion. I am also particularly interested in the ways in which critical thinking and reasoning can be applied to students' lives in areas far from philosophy, and my GE courses focus on providing my student with a toolkit of allowing them to be think and reason more clearly in all areas of their lives.

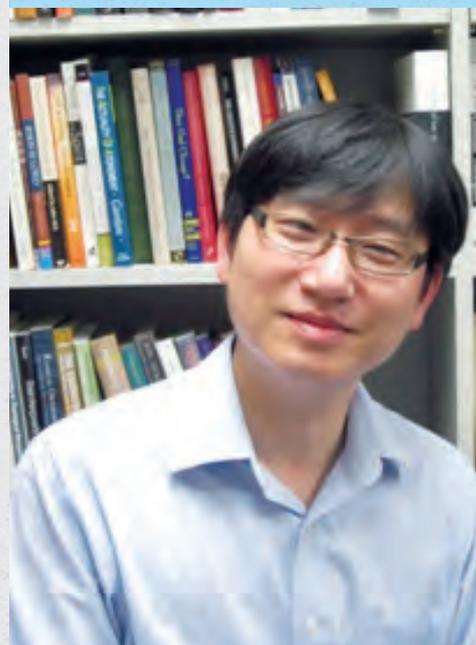
Before moving to Baptist U, I taught at Santa Clara University in California, Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, and CityU, here in Hong Kong.

Dr. Kwok, Wai Luen 郭偉聯博士

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. 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 travelling, 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. Ng, William Y. N. 吳有能博士

Associate Professor

Born in Hong Kong, I grew up in Yuen Long. I got a BA (History, National Taiwan University) and a MA (History, National Tsing-hua University) and received my PhD on comparative religious philosophy at the University of Toronto.

My major research interests are on contemporary Confucianism, Buddhism and inter-religious dialogue. But I am also interested in social and cultural issues and film studies in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

My major publications include *Comparative Horizon: Discourses on Contemporary Philosophy in Hong Kong and Taiwan* (Taipei: Liberal Arts Press, 2009), *Penetrating into Hundred Schools of Thought: A Study of Lao Siguang* (Taipei: Liberal Arts Press, 1999). I am also the editor of *The Blossoming of Lotus: Collected Essays on the True Buddha School* (Taipei: Liberal Arts Press, 2016); co-author of *Paul Tillich and East Asian Religions* (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017) and co-editor of *Whole-person Education: Sino-Western Dialogue* (Taipei: National Taiwan Normal University Press, 2017), and *Whose Utopia? Reflections and Dialectical Development in Five Hundred Years* (Taipei: National Taiwan Normal University Press, 2017). I am one of four translators of Wing-tist Chan, *Sources Book of Chinese Philosophy* (Taipei: Juliu Press, 1993) and the co-translator of Julia Ching, *Confucianism and Christianity* (Taipei: Liberal Arts Press, 1999).

Interests: I love dog. In my leisure time, I enjoys film, music, and creative writing.

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 of hylomorphism), and a nice cup of tea.





Dr. Chan, Shing Bun Benedict 陳成斌博士

Assistant Professor

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. Mak, George K. W. 麥金華博士

Assistant 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.





Dr. Walker, Mary Jean

Research Assistant Professor

I first fell in love with philosophy when I read the Apology of Socrates as a teenager. The idea that we could get to knowledge using reasoning and honesty brought me in before I even knew who Socrates was, and why he was defending himself.

I studied undergraduate philosophy at the University of Sydney and then did a PhD at Macquarie University. My thesis focused on personal identity, on what it means for a person to be the same through time, and through personal change.

Since then I have worked in several positions in Australia, at Charles Sturt University, Macquarie and Monash University. I have taught classes on ethics, applied ethics and critical thinking.

My research is now primarily in bioethics, looking at ethical questions arising in healthcare and medical research. I've also worked in philosophy of medicine, an area that examines questions about medical concepts like health and disease. I am also interested in personal identity, particularly in narrative identity theories. I still try to let reason and intellectual honesty guide all my work, as well as my teaching, and hope to inspire a love of philosophy in my students.

At Hong Kong Baptist University I will teach Matters of Life and Death.

Dr. Marbaniang, Domenic

Lecturer

I studied theology and philosophy of religion at Central India Theological Seminary (Itarsi) (CITS) and ACTS Academy of Higher Education (Bangalore). My post-graduate research work focused on the history of secularism in India and the epistemic foundations of non-dualism, polytheism, and trinitarianism. Beginning in 2002 at my alma mater CITS, I taught over 20 courses in the areas of comparative religions, systematic theology, philosophy of religion and biblical studies. In 2018-19, I taught two courses, namely Comparative Religious Themes and Quest for Truth and Meaning, at HKBU and look forward to teaching a few more other courses this year.

I regularly write for popular periodicals published by theological institutions covering themes such as Christian ethics, Christian doctrine, and contemporary issues. I have also written chapters in the *Children at Risk* series (3 volumes) published by CFCD/ISPCK and a number of articles in various theological journals such as *Basileia*, *Journal of the Contemporary Christian*, and *NATA Journal*. Apart from that, I have made generous use of self-publishing platforms such as Lulu, Pohti and Amazon to reach out to a wider audience. My fictional novella *The City of Magic* is currently published in a serialized form by *Christian Trends*.

Apart from teaching and writing, I am also quite interested in music as a hobby and am a self-taught guitarist and percussionist.





Prof. Pfister, Lauren 費樂仁教授

Professor Emeritus

I have lived in Hong Kong with my family since 1987, and now am a grandfather with four grandchildren who are all living overseas. They are some of the special joys SIMOU and I have in our lives; we get to experience those joys by having fairly regular video conferences with them, our children and their spouses. In addition, my wife and I particularly enjoy sharing food and conversation (using Cantonese, Putonghua and English) in our home with students as part of our way of encouraging teacher-student relationships.

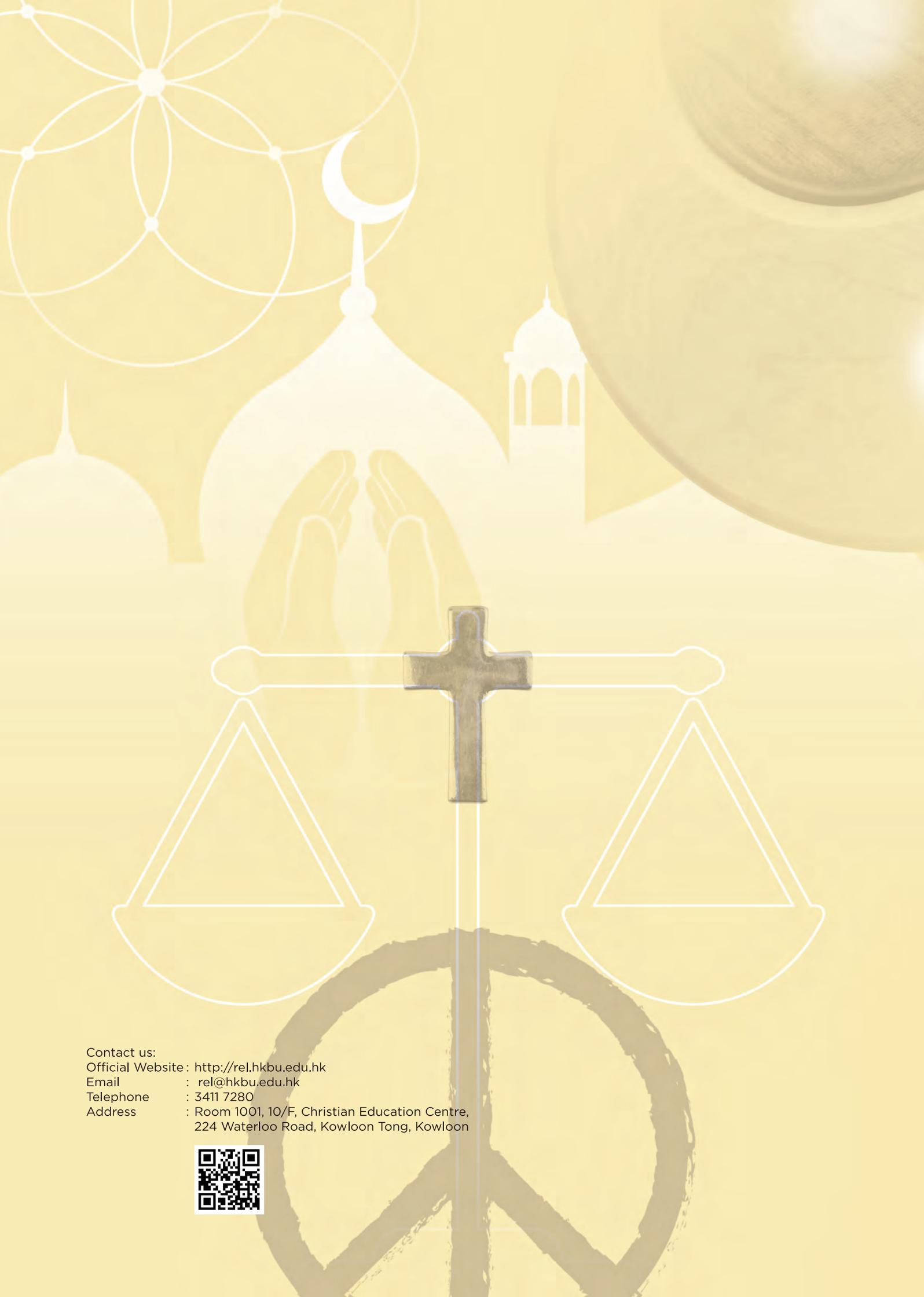
Having earned academic degrees in a Baptist seminary and in philosophy in the USA before arriving in Hong Kong, my final degree dealt with matters related to Chinese philosophy. So to be able to teach in Hong Kong for so many years has allowed me to make advances in research involving Chinese and comparative themes in both religious and philosophical studies. During the academic year of 2011-2012 I had the special privilege of serving as our Department's Head, and the Director of the Centre for Sino-Christian Studies until I retired from the Department in 2017.

Over the years, my major areas of research and writing have developed themes in 19th and 20th century philosophical and religious issues in Ruism ("Confucianism"), Ruist-Christian dialogue, Christian missionary-scholars, hermeneutics, and theme in the history of both Chinese philosophy and European sinology.

The Christian values which inform my life, writing and teachings have been summarized in the following four mandates which I take as goals for my life (and am particularly glad to know those students who share them):

- Love in and by Christ's Spirit;
- Learn with humble openness;
- Explore with courageous truthfulness;
- Create what is pleasing to God and honorable before others.

I enjoy travelling, jogging, coin and stamp collecting, language learning and making music.



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