COURSE DETAIL

PHILOSOPHY OF ZHUANGZI

Country
United Kingdom - Scotland

Host Institution
University of St Andrews

Program(s)
University of St Andrews

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number
164

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
PHILOSOPHY OF ZHUANGZI

UCEAP Transcript Title
PHILOSOPHY/ZHUANGZI

UCEAP Quarter Units
12.00

UCEAP Semester Units
8.00

Course Description

The Zhuangzi 莊子 is an ancient text from the Warring States period (476 – 221 BC) of what is now China. Traditionally ascribed to a single author, Zhuang Zhou, it is now generally regarded as a compilation of many texts, spanning many decades but united by key themes. These themes raise challenges to some fundamental philosophical orthodoxies: the possibility of genuine knowledge, the existence of consistent identifiable standards in morality and reasoning, the power of language to successfully communicate thoughts, the stability of personal identity, even the ontological distinctness of things. This course covers key chapters of this radical and mysterious text and introduces students to some of the philosophical scholarship on it. All texts are read in annotated English translations, but consideration is given to the unique properties of the original language and the difficulties of accurate translation.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
PY4323

Host Institution Course Title
PHILOSOPHY OF ZHUANGZI

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/modules/catalogue/?meta_semester_sand=1&m...

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Philosophy

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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