# Syllabus for a 13-week Course on Classical Chinese Philosophy

**Textbooks:**


## Week 1

**Topic:** Methodology and Historical Context.

**Readings**

- Appendix A: Hermeneutics, or How to Read a Text, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*
- Introduction, in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy, 2nd ed.*
- Chapter 1: The Historical Context, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*

**Optional Readings:**


## Week 2

**Topic:** Kongzi (Confucius) and Confucianism

**Readings**

- Chapter 2: Kongzi and Confucianism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*

**Optional Readings:**

- A.R. Radcliffe-Brown, "Religion and Society."
### Week 3

**Topic:** Approaches to Interpreting Kongzi (Confucius)

**Readings:**
- Chapter 3: Kongzi and Virtue Ethics, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*
- Appendix C: Kongzi as Systematic Philosopher, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*

**Optional Readings:**

### Week 4

**Topic:** Mozi (Mo Tzu) and Mohism

**Readings:**
- Mozi, in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy.*
- Chapter 4: Mohist Consequentialism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy.*

**Optional Readings:**
- "Against Fatalism," ibid. (There is only a partial translation of this in *Readings.*)
### Week 5

**Topic:** Yang Zhu (Yang Chu) and Egoism

**Readings:**
- Chapter 5: Yang Zhu and Egoism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

**Optional Readings:**

### Week 7

**Topic:** Mengzi (Mencius) and the Revival of Confucianism

**Readings:**
- Mengzi (Mencius), in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy, 2nd ed.*
- Chapter 6: Mengzi and Human Nature, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

**Optional Readings:**

### Week 6

**Topic:** The Chinese Language and Philosophy

**Readings:**
- Appendix B: The Chinese Language and Writing System, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.
- Chapter 7: Language and Paradox in the "School of Names," in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*. 
# Week 8

**Topic:** Laozi (Lao Tzu) and the *Daodejing* (*Tao Te Ching*)

**Readings:**
- Chapter 8: The *Daodejing* and Mysticism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

**Optional Readings:**

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# Week 9

**Topic:** Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu)

**Readings:**
- Zhuangzi, in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy*, 2nd ed.
- Chapter 9: Zhuangzi's Therapeutic Skepticism and Relativism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

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# Week 10

**Topic:** Xunzi (Hsün Tzu)

**Readings:**
- Xunzi, in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy*, 2nd ed.
- Chapter 10: Xunzi's Confucian Naturalism, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

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# Week 11

**Topic:** Women and Gender in Chinese Thought

**Readings:**
- Selections from the *Odes*, ibid.
- Baosi and King You of Zhou, ibid.
- Gongfu Wenbo's Mother, ibid.
- Selections from Ban Zhao, *Lessons for Women*, ibid.
### Week 12

**Topic:** Han Feizi (Han Fei Tzu)

**Readings:**
- Han Feizi, in *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy*, 2nd ed.
- Chapter 11: Han Feizi, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

### Week 13

**Topic:** Later Developments

**Readings:**
- Chapter 12: Later Chinese Thought, in *Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy*.

**Optional Readings:**