

Ancient Chinese Law and Philosophy – 15 December 2014

- The duration of the examination is 75 minutes.
- Candidates may freely consult any materials of their own (including dictionaries and internet resources) during the course of the examination.
- On each Answer sheet, candidates must write their **student number only**. Please do **not** write your name or major subject.

[1] Comment on the following picture with the following two passages in mind:



The Master said, “If you indeed have ethical resolve, you would not give way to an army of 2500 soldiers.” (Lun Yu, 15.36)

The Master said, “Determined persons who have ethical resolve will not seek to live undermining ethical resolve. They will even sacrifice their lives to fulfil their ethical resolve.” (Lun Yu, 15.9)

[2] Discuss the Confucian notion of honesty with reference to the following passages:

Duke of She (葉公) told Confucius, “In our group, there is an honest person. When his father stole a sheep, he testified against it.” Confucius said, “In our group, honesty is different. Father’s deed may be covered by the son. Son’s deed may be covered by the father. Honesty is there!” (Lun Yu, 13.18)

The Master then said, “Ci, do you also have hatred?” Zi Gong replied, “I hate those who beat around the bush and treat it as wisdom. I hate those who are rude and think that they have courage. I hate those who rat on others and think that they are honest.” (Lun Yu, 17.24)

The Master said, “... To cherish honesty and to neglect learning, you end up being caught in a straightjacket...” (Lun Yu, 17.8)

The Master said, “Honesty is the best policy. If you live a life of lies, all you can manage, if lucky, is to avoid being caught.” (Lun Yu, 6.19)

[End of questions] You must answer both questions.