

Ancient Chinese Law and Philosophy – 19 December 2016

- The duration of the examination is 75 minutes.
- Candidates may freely consult any materials of their own (including dictionaries and online 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 passage and explain the aim of Confucian learning (學):

Duke Ai asked, ‘Among your students, who is fond of learning (好學)?’ Confucius replied, ‘A man called Yan Hui was fond of learning. He was unswerving in his wrath. He did not repeat the same mistake twice. Unfortunately, he died early. Now there is none. I have not since heard of a man who is fond of learning.’ (Lu Yu, 6.3)

[2] Discuss the following passages and explain the concept of ren (仁):

Ren (仁) means to love others. He who loves others is bound to be loved by others. ... If a person treats me in a perverse and unreasonable manner, I – being a noble man – shall reflect upon myself: I must have been lacking in ren (仁). – Meng Zi, Li Lou II, 56

Ren (仁) means to start from what one loves and to extend it to what one does not love. Lack of ren (仁) means to start from what one does not love and to extend it to what one loves. – Meng Zi, Jin Xin II, 47

Everyone has things which one cannot tolerate. To overcome and tolerate them, that is ren (仁). – Meng Zi, Jin Xin II, 77

The Master said, “A man of ren (仁) is bound to have courage. A man of courage is not necessarily a man of ren (仁).” (Lun Yu, 14.4)

The Master said, ‘Soothing words, pleasant face and lots of politeness. Zuo Qiu Ming regarded them as shameful. I (Qiu) also regard them as shameful. To hide grievance and pretend to be friend with the person: Zuo Qiu Ming regarded it as shameful. I also regard it as shameful.’ (Lun Yu, 5.25)

[End of questions] You must answer both questions.