

**From China with Confucius:  
Surveying Confucianism in Chinese Society and Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup>  
Century**

The summer course “From China with Confucius: Surveying Confucianism in Chinese Society and Politics in the 21st Century” examines the revival of Confucianism in contemporary China and reflects on the meaning and significance of this new socio-political phenomenon as China is rapidly emerging as a key player in the international arena while profoundly entangled in the on-going Sino-US trade war.

The course will first propose a sociological and anthropological approach to popular Confucianism in order to “visualize” its current condition in China as the collapse of the institutionalized Confucianism along with the Qing Empire had fundamentally obscured its existence. The course will then examine the latest appropriation of Confucian vocabulary in Chinese political and public discourses, paying close attention to a possible “official Confucianism” that is recognized, approved, and promoted by the Communist Party and the Chinese government. It will further explore the prospects of a Confucian turn in the Communist ideology by inspecting a number of examples, from top to bottom, of the so-called “confucianization” of the Party. It is hoped that, after taking the survey course, the participants can appreciate the Confucian vision embedded in contemporary Chinese discourses such as “Harmonious Society,” “The Chinese Dream,” “A Community of Shared Destiny for Mankind,” “One Belt One Road,” so on and so forth, in order to better understand Chinese ambitions and initiatives that are beginning to help shape a new world order defiant of any previous anticipations and estimates.

Designed by the internationally recognized Confucian studies scholar, Yong Chen, the course is to introduce a critical methodology to research fields pertinent to sinology and China-related topics. It welcomes undergraduate students, graduate students and scholars from the fields of Confucian studies, political science, international studies, anthropology and sociology of religion, cultural studies, and other related disciplines.