

Unit III: Classical Eastern Philosophy

...Meanwhile, in completely different parts of the world, philosophy had been developing in entirely different directions. For many Westerners, Eastern philosophy seemed superior to their own philosophy, because it was more in tune with the cosmos, with nature, with human nature, and with the nature of human society.

This being in tune has to do with the fact that Eastern philosophy tends to lack the complicated metaphysics developed in the West, which in many people's eyes gets in the way of what reality is all about. Also, Eastern philosophy tends to lack the sharp distinction imposed by much Western philosophy between subjectivity and objectivity. As a result, in Eastern philosophy there is less of an attempt to control reality and more of a recognition that we are all part of reality.

There are three main traditions of Eastern Philosophy: one from the Far East, one from India, and one from the Middle East. They represent important traditions in and of themselves and have had an important impact on the way Westerners think

-taken from *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Philosophy*

Date	Topic	Reading	Learning Targets	Key Vocabulary
Fri 11/1	Intro to Eastern Thought			
Mon 11/4	Confucianism	The Analects of Confucius	How do <u>The Analects of Confucius</u> outline Confucian thought? Outline the ethical basics of Confucianism.	Li Ren The Tao
Tue 11/5	Confucianism			
Wed 11/6	Taoism		Outline the Ontological and Ethical basics of Taoism.	Wu-Wei Yin and Yang
Thu 11/7	Hinduism	Indian Readings	How do the <u>Baghavad Gita</u> and the <u>Mahabharata</u> outline Hindu thought? Outline the ontological and ethical basics of Hinduism	The Vedas and the Epics Dharma and karma Moksa Yoga
Fri 11/8	Hinduism			
Mon 11/11	Buddhism	Buddhist Readings	Outline the ontological and ethical basics of Buddhism	Asceticism The Four Noble

				Truths The Eight-fold Path
Tue 11/12	Buddhism and Review			
Wed 11/13	Unit III Test			