Philosophy 120 / Spring 2025 COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY:

Theory & Practice

Dr. Bo Mou

bo.mou@sjsu.edu

[weekly asynchronous online sessions]

This course as given in Spring 2025 is an "advanced" introduction to comparative philosophy as *a general way of doing philosophy through cross-tradition engagement toward world philosophy*. It inquiries into how distinct approaches/resources from different philosophical traditions (distinguished culturally or by style/orientation) can talk to and understand, engage with (rather than passing by) and learn from (rather than dismissing) each other and make joint contributions to the development of philosophy on a range of jointly concerned issues.

This course consists of two parts: (1) "theory" part: to examine some closely related fundamental theoretic and methodological issues on how cross-tradition engagement in philosophy is possible. (2) "practice" part: to analyze several representative sample cases of cross-tradition engagement of distinct approaches from some major philosophical traditions on a range of jointly concerned issues/topics.

Prerequisite: 3 units of philosophy or upper division standing.

Texts:

- Tim Connolly: *Doing Philosophy Comparatively* (Bloomsbury, 2nd edition <January 2023> paperback, ISBN: 978-1350177543)

- Bo Mou: Cross-Tradition Engagement in Philosophy: A Constructive-Engagement Account (Routledge, 2022 paperback, ISBN: 978-1032336466)