

Professor Hisaki Hashi

Buddhism and Contemporary European Philosophy – Seminar in Comparative Philosophy

Spring Semester

The dates of the meetings 22.02., 29.03., 26.04., 31.05.

15:00-17:00

Title of the course: "The Field of Between: Post-modern Buddhist Philosophy and Contemporary European Philosophy."

The contents of the course

"The Field of Between" is one of my interdisciplinary philosophical theses presented in 2006, 2009, and 2011 at the Polish Academy of Sciences' Centre in Vienna. Briefly, it offers an essential core for the meeting, debate, and interaction via a high level of cultural philosophy that is valid as the "reflecting/thinking discipline for all sciences" (Fichte, *Über den Begriff der Wissenschaftslehre* (1794) / *Concerning the Conception of the Science of Knowledge Generally* (1794)).

All over the world in this post-corona crisis time, philosophy is asked to examine its relevance and significance. Reflecting on this topic leads us towards the ultimate purpose of philosophy in our time.

Meeting 1: February 22nd, 2021

What is "The Field of Between"? - An interdisciplinary approach

Suppose completely different scientific disciplines (for example, Physics and Philosophy) engage in an interactive dialogue. In that case, there will be topics whereby even an established expert in one field can hold mistaken assumptions concerning the other. This problem should be solved by methodological analysis and deduction.

See "Literature": 2.a), 2.b), 4.a)

Meeting 2: March 29th, 2021

"The Field of Between" – As the Key Concept for Comparative Philosophy

When experts of philosophy coming from different cultural routes meet in dialogue, their life-background, thinking methods, and judgment measures can be widely divergent. Since this kind of discrepancy is often hidden within unexpressed presuppositions in our time of globalization, various misleading interpretations are unavoidable. What can we do to overcome this hurdle?

See "Literature": 1.a), 2.c), 3.b), 5.a)

Meeting 3: April 26th, 2021

"The Field of Between" in the Logics of the post-modern Buddhist Philosophy – The Essence of the Zen and Mahayana Buddhist Philosophy in East Asia

Buddhism's long history as an integrative unit of religion, philosophy, and ethics includes many faces and cultural schools in various regions of Asia, whereby East Asian and Indo-Tibetan Buddhism often represent very different concepts and ideas regarding the same topics. Zen Buddhism expresses a unique position between a self-critical philosophy and practical ethics. Its paradoxical questioning about life and death and its clear insight into the fundamental truth construed by integrative thinking and acting gives rise to profound Metaphysics and Ontology, especially relevant in contemporary human society.

See "Literature": 2.c), 2.d), 5.c)

Meeting 4: May 31st, 2021

"The Field of Between" as the integrative topos toward the new cognitive thinking in a global world

The ideas from (1)-(2)-(3) will work together to build up a new philosophy for a global world. This final meeting inquires how far the principle of "The Field of Between" works in building a relationship between interdisciplinary epistemological, comparative philosophical, and universal ethical issues related to actualizing the ideal of human life.

Literature: See the meetings (1), (2), (3)

Each unit of the seminar (ca. 120 minutes) is constructed by:

25 min. For the lecture part 1, → 20 min. dialogue and discussion →

25 min. For the lecture part 2, → 20 min. dialogue and discussion →

→summary for this unit with discussion: 15-20 min.

Materials: I will offer a PowerPoint presentation and some literature (short articles) after the end of every seminar unit.

Literature

1. GLOY, Karen:

- a) The One Truth and the Many Theories of the Truth, in: J. NIŽNIK, H. HASHI (Eds.), *What is Truth? In Philosophy and in Different Scientific Disciplines*, Vienna 2011: Polish Academy of Sciences

2. HASHI Hisaki:

- a) The Field of Between: A Concept of Truth for Interdisciplinary Epistemology, in: J. NIŽNIK, H. HASHI (Eds.), *What is Truth? In Philosophy and in Different Scientific Disciplines*, Vienna 2011: Polish Academy of Sciences
- b) “*The Field of Between*”: A Principle to an Integrative Relationship between Philosophy of Nature and Natural Sciences, in: H. HASHI, *Philosophy of Nature in Cross-Cultural Dimensions*, Hamburg 2017: Dr. Kovač
- c) The Theory of ‘*Between*’ – ‘*Transmission*’ – ‘*Intra-Relation*’. Toward the Cognition of the Universal Truth in Huayen- and Zen Buddhism, in: F. WALLNER, G. KLUENGER (Eds.), *Buddhism – Science – Medicine*, Nordhausen 2015: Bautz
- d) Comparative Philosophy as the fundamental Method of Interdisciplinary Research, in: H. HASHI, *Denkdisziplinen von Ost und West (Thinking Disciplines of East and West)*, Nordhausen 2015: Bautz

3. NIŽNIK, Józef:

- a) *The Arbitrariness of Philosophy*, Aurora, Colorado / USA 2006: The Davies Group
- b) Philosophy and Dynamics of Symbolic Universe in the Globalized World, in: H. HASHI, *Denkdisziplinen von Ost und West (Thinking Disciplines of East and West)*, Nordhausen 2015: Bautz

4. PIETSCHMANN, Herbert:

- a) Truth or Knowledge in Physics, in: NIŽNIK, H. HASHI (Eds.), *What is Truth?*, Vienna 2011: Polish Academy of Sciences, Centre of Vienna
- b) Can Scientific Knowledge be called “Truth”?, in: H. HASHI, *Philosophy of Nature in Cross-Cultural Dimensions. The Result of the International Symposium at the University of Vienna*, Hamburg 2017: Dr. Kovač

5. WALLNER, Friedrich:

- a) Information – Strangification – Society, in: *Structure and Relativity*, Frankfurt a.M. 2005: Peter Lang
- b) The Development of European Thoughts in the last century, in: *ibidem*
- c) Cultural Relativism and Cultural Absolutism, in: *ibidem*

6. Buddhist thought today

Promta, Somparn: Enlightened Life – Integration of Buddha’s Teaching and Biology, in: F. Wallner and G. Kluenger (Eds.), *Buddhism – Science and Medicine*, Nordhausen 2015: Bautz

Puntarigivat, Tavivat: Buddhist Theory of Human Nature, in: *Thai Buddhist Social Theory*, Bangkok 2013: The World Buddhist University

Kluenger, Gerhard: Buddhas “Noble Eightfold Path” in its Western Interpretation, in: F. Wallner and G. Kluenger (Eds.), *Buddhism – Science and Medicine*, Nordhausen 2015: Bautz

