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Katedra asijských studií FF UP a projekt CHINET

srdečně zve na přednášku z cyklu

Odborný seminář čínských studií 4 (ASH/JZ4)

Dr. Elliott Shaw, BA, BA, PhD

Senior lecturer in Religious Studies, University of Cumbria, UK

Confucianism: A Blend of Radicalism and Tradition

středa 8. dubna 2015, 15:00 – 16:30, učebna KA-VU1

Living in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE Confucius witnessed a period of growing instability in China; it was one in which Zhou rule was increasingly weakened and power fell into the hands of feudal lords. The growing decentralisation of power created the conditions that eventually led to the breakdown of central rule and a period of ongoing conflict which came to be known as the warring states era. This lecture seeks to explore the development of Confucius' humanistic ideas against the background of such developments. It examines how Confucianism sought to foster social harmony through encouraging the cultivation of a range of virtues, the acceptance of hierarchical relationality, and by invoking exemplary models of conduct from the past. It is proposed that Confucianism can be understood as blending both revolutionary and conservative motifs. On the one hand it took a radically democratic form through redefining traditional aristocratic concepts in the form of universally accessible ethical categories; on the other hand, it discouraged revolutionary change through encouraging loyalty, obedience and respect for the current political order.

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