

David Machek

(CV as of 10.01. 2021)

Personal

Born: 15.03.1984 in Prague (CZ)

Nationality: Czech (EU)

Family: Married, two children (*2014 and *2017)

Address: Vordere Gasse 10, Riggisberg, CH-3132, Switzerland

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.nl/citations?hl=en&user=ZZ6MqEsAAAAJ>

Areas of specialization

AOS: Græco-Roman philosophy; early Chinese philosophy; Sino-Hellenic comparative philosophy

AOC: normative ethics; virtue ethics; philosophical theories of emotions

Education

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), East Asian Studies, University of Toronto (09/2009–02/2015)

“Virtuosos of the Ordinary: Comparative Interpretations of Stoic and Daoist thought”

Advisors: Prof. Vincent Shen, Prof. Brad Inwood, Dr. Curie Virág

Master of Arts (Mgr.), Philosophy and Sinology, Charles University (09/2003–09/2008)

Employment

from 01/2019–

Senior Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Ambizione, SNSF), Department of Philosophy, University of Berne

Project “Carving up moral motivation in ancient Chinese and Grco-Roman thought”, funded by Swiss National Science Foundation, 01/2019–12/2022

01/2016–12/2018

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Philosophy, University of Berne

Project “The Art of Feeling: A Perspective on Emotions from ancient Chinese and Greco-Roman philosophy”, funded by Swiss National Science Foundation (supervised by Prof. Richard King)

09/2009–06/2015

Teaching Assistant and Course Instructor, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto.

Prizes, awards, fellowships

Charles Fu Foundation and International Society for Chinese Philosophy 2015 *Best Essay Contest* (USD 3.000)

Julia Ching Memorial Fellowship in Chinese Thought and Culture, University of Toronto, 2014/2015 (CAD 24.000)

Canada Graduate Vanier Scholarship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada, 2011–2014 (CAD 150.000)

Avie Bennett Scholarship, University of Toronto, 2009/2010 (CAD 20.000)

Third-party funding

Swiss National Science Foundation, Ambizione (CHF 552.000)
“Carving up moral motivation in ancient Chinese and Græco-Roman thought” (01/2019–12/2022)

Czech National Science Foundation, Project Grant (CZK 650.000), grant declined
“The Art of Feeling” (2016–2018)

Languages

active: English, German, modern Chinese, Czech

passive: classical Chinese, classical Greek, Latin, French

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- “Aristotle on the Goodness of Unhappy Lives.”
Journal of the History of Philosophy (accepted in 12/2020)
- “Freunde aufgrund des Lebens: Eine aristotelische Theorie der Freundschaft zwischen Eltern und Kindern”.
Zeitschrift für praktische Philosophie (accepted in 11/2020)
- “Is the life of a mediocre metaphysician better than the life of an excellent cobbler? Aristotle on the value of activity in *Nicomachean Ethics* x”. *The Journal of Value Inquiry* (accepted in 12/2020)
- “Mengzi on Nourishing the Heart By Having Few Desires.”
Forthcoming in *Philosophy East and West* 71.2, 2021.
- “Aristotle on How Pleasure Perfects Activity (*Nicomachean Ethics* x.4-5). The Optimising View.” *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, 2020 (ahead-of-print).
<https://doi.org/10.1515/agph-2019-0088>
- “Two Stoic Accounts of Psychological Conflict.” *Ancient Philosophy* 40.2, 389–409, 2020.
<https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil202040226>
- “Aristotle on Enkratic Ignorance.” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 58.4, 655–678, 2020.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/hph.2020.0071>
- “Did Seneca Accede to μετριοπάθεια in His Consolatory Texts?”
Ancient Philosophy 38.2, 383–408, 2018.
<https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil201838231>
- “Carving, Taming, or Gardening? Plutarch on Emotions, Reason and Virtue.” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 26.2, 255–275, 2018.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2017.1393620>
- “Stoics and Daoists on Freedom As Doing Necessary Things.”
Philosophy East and West 68.1, 174–200, 2018.
- “Using Our Selves: An Interpretation of the Stoic Four-*personae* Theory in Cicero’s *De Officiis* I.”
Apeiron: A Journal of Ancient Philosophy and Science 49.2, 163–191, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2015-0057>
- “Beyond Sincerity and Pretense: Role-playing and Unstructured Self in the *Zhuangzi*.” *Asian Philosophy* 26.1, 52–65, 2016.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09552367.2015.1136202>
- “Emotions That Do Not Move: Zhuangzi and Stoics on self-emerging feelings”. *Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 14.4, 521–544, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11712-015-9463-9>

“The Ideal of Quiescent Mind: «Mind» and «Vital Energy» in China of the Fourth Century B.C.” *Antiquorum Philosophia* 6, 135–158, 2012.

“Rozum jako forma, emoce jako látka: Plútarchova teorie mravní ctivosti v *De virtute morali*.” [Reason as form, emotions as matter: Plutarch’s theory of moral virtue in *De Virtute morali*]. *Reflexe* 43, 1–20, 2012. (In Czech)

“The Doubleness of Craft: Motifs of Technical Action in the Life Praxis according to Aristotle and Zhuangzi”. *Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 10.4, 507–526, 2011.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11712-011-9247-9>

“Is Freedom in Necessity or in Happiness? The Controversy Between Guo Xiang’s and Lin Xiyi’s Interpretation of Zhuangzi’s *Free Rambling*.” *Studia Orientalia Slovaca* 9, 1501–1517, 2010.

MONOGRAPHS

Čínské myšlení zevnitř: čítanka tradičních komentářů ke knize Zhuangzi [*Chinese Thought From Within: A Reader of Traditional Chinese Commentaries on the Zhuangzi. Translation, Commentary and Interpretation*]. Prague: Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Charles University, 2017. (In Czech)

Virtuosos of the Ordinary: Comparative Interpretations of Stoic and Daoist Thought. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Toronto, 2015.
<http://hdl.handle.net/1807/69416>

EDITORSHIP

Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy. A special issue of *Rhizomata*. Forthcoming in April 2021. (with Máté Veres)

Plato’s *Gorgias*. Leiden: Brill. Forthcoming in 2021.
(with Vladimír Mikeš)

VOLUME ARTICLES

“Warum ist Unrecht tun für den Unrechttuenden schlimmer als Unrecht erleiden?” In *Plato’s Gorgias*, edited by David Machek and Vladimír Mikeš, Leiden: Brill. Forthcoming in 2021.

“Aristotle on Attention and Akrasia” In *Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy*. A special issue of *Rhizomata* edited by David Machek and Máté Veres. Forthcoming in April 2021.

“Can One Become Wise by Learning to Catch Cicadas? Analogies between Crafts and Wisdom in Daoism and Stoicism” In *Skill in Ancient Ethics*, edited by Tom Angier and Lisa Raphals, Bloomsbury Press. In Print.

“Další tradiční čínské komentáře k *Zhuangzi* (Cheng Xuanying, Lin Xiyi, Wang Fuzhi)” [“Later Traditional Commentaries on the *Zhuangzi*”] In *Čínský, japonský a korejský taoismus* [Chinese, Japanese and Korean Daoism], edited by Jan Beran and Oldřich Král, Praha: Argo, 153–167, 2020. (In Czech)

“Skill and Emotions in the *Zhuangzi*.” In *Skill and Mastery. Philosophical Stories from the Zhuangzi*, edited by Karyn Lai and Wai Wai Chiu, Rowman & Littlefield, 33–44, 2019.

“Tao Yuanming: *Tělo, duch, stín*. Filosofická reflexe smrti ve středověké čínské lyrice” [“Tao Yuanming: *Body, Soul and Spirit*. A Philosophical Reflection on Death in Medieval Chinese Poetry. Translation and Interpretation]. In *Acta Universitatis Carolinae, Orientalia Pragensia* XVI, ed. by Olga Lomová, 57–78, 2011. (In Czech)

REVIEWS

Review of Lee, Jung H., *The Ethical Foundations of Early Daoism: Zhuangzi's Unique Moral Vision*. *Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 17.1, 129–132, 2017.

Review of Jaromír Vochala, *Konfucius v zrcadle sebraných výroků*. *Reflexe* 38, 2009. (In Czech)

Talks

(invited talks marked by *)

* “Aristotle on the Child-Parent Friendship”, Palacký University, Department of Philosophy, October 26, 2020.

“Xunzi on Emotions”, 3rd *Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy*, Gent University, Gent, September 4–7, 2019.

“Expert Impressions in Stoicism”, *Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy*. University of Berne, September 2, 2019.

“Stoics and Daoists on Doing Things Well”, 21st International Conference, *International Society of Chinese Philosophy*, University of Berne, Berne, July 2nd–5th, 2019.

* “Aristotle’s *Rhetorics* i.6”, *The Southeast-European Association for Ancient Philosophy*. Charles University, Prague, November 23, 2018.

* “Roles and the self behind the role: A difficult relationship?” *A Symposium: Comparing Virtues, Roles, Duties in early China and Graeco-Roman antiquity*. Renmin University, Beijing, July 5–8, 2018.

“Mengzi, Zhuangzi and Xunzi on the structure of the self: Some preliminary remarks.” *2nd Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy*. Universität Basel, September 8, 2017.

* “Aristotle on akrasia and eating sweets in theatre”. *The Good Life and the Art of Feeling: Emotions as Skills in Chinese and Graeco-Roman ethics*. University of Berne, June 7, 2017.

* “Mengzi and Zhuangzi on feelings without desires”. Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo, December 2016.

* “Stoics on the recalcitrance of emotions”. Thymos group, University of Geneva, November 17, 2016.

* “Stoics on the idea of expert perception”. Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, April 25, 2016.

“Was Yang Zhu an individualist?” *Inaugural Biennial Conference of the European Association of Chinese Philosophy*. Vilnius University, Lithuania, June 9–11, 2016.

* “Erfahrene Wahrnehmung bei den Stoikern”. *Runder Tisch*. Institut für Philosophie, Universität Bern, May 2016.

“Being a cicada-catcher, a human, a wife: China Warring States views about self-cultivation in light of a role-defined self”. *In pursuit of wisdom: Ancient Chinese and Greek perspectives on cultivation*. University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, January 15–18, 2016.

“Beyond Sincerity and Pretense: The role-playing in the Zhuangzi”. *Bi-annual conference of the International Society for Chinese Philosophy*, Hongkong, July 21–24, 2015.

“Feelings Without Desires: On the autonomy according to Mengzi and Zhuangzi”. *Bi-annual conference of the International Society for Chinese Philosophy*, Hongkong, July 21–24, 2015.

“To feel emotion and suppress it: Seneca on the moderation of grief”. *Central Eastern and European Ethics Network*, Palacky University, Olomouc, May 28–30, 2015.

“The craft of living according to Zhuangzi and Stoicism”. *Analogies, Models and Images in early Chinese and Greco-Roman Ethics*. University of Berne, December 2014.

“*Xin* and *qi* in *Guanzi* and *Mengzi*.” *Bi-annual conference of International Society of Chinese Philosophy*, Paris, July 2011.

Teaching

University of Berne:

“Klassiker I : Einführung in altgriechische Philosophie” (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
bachelor-level introductory course to ancient philosophy

Platons *Gorgias* (Spring 2020)
bachelor-level seminar

“Aristoteles: *Nikomachische Ethik*” (Spring 2019)
bachelor-level seminar

“Akrasia in ancient and contemporary thought” (Spring 2018),
master-level seminar

“Virtues and duties in early China and ancient Greece” (Fall 2016) (with R. King)
master-level seminar

“Stoic ethics and political philosophy”(Spring 2016) (with G. Tsouni)
bachelor-level course

University of Toronto:

“Chinese Philosophy” (Fall 2014)
first-year introductory course to Chinese philosophy

“Classical Daoism” (Fall 2013)
advanced B.A. seminar

“History of Chinese Philosophy” (Summer 2012)
introductory course to Chinese philosophy

Charles University (Prague):

“Freedom in ancient Greek and Chinese philosophy” (Fall 2009)
master-level seminar

Referee

Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy, Philosophy East and West, British Journal for the History of Philosophy

Memberships in societies

European Association for Chinese Philosophy; International Society for Chinese Philosophy;
European Association of Chinese Studies

Organisation of conferences

“The Good Life and the Art of Feeling: Emotions as Skills in Chinese and Graeco-Roman ethics”. University of Berne, June 7-9, 2017 (the main organizer).

“Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy”. University of Berne, September 2-3, 2019 (the main organizer).

Career breaks

10/2008–08/2009 free-lance translator and interpreter

03/2015–12/2015 child-care duties

References

Brad Inwood
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Richard King
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