

YOUNGSUN BACK

Curriculum Vita

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College of Confucian Studies & Eastern Philosophy,
Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea

Office Phone: +(82) 2 760-0234
E-mail: ysback@skku.edu

EDUCATION

2013 Ph.D in Chinese Thought (minor: Religious Studies)
Dept. of East Asian Languages & Literature
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Diss.: "Handling Fate: The Ru Discourse on Ming 命"

Advisor: Mark Csikszentmihalyi / Co-Advisor: Mark Meulenbeld

2006 M.A. in Chinese Thought
Dept. of East Asian Languages & Literature
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

2001 M.A. in Korean studies (Religious Culture of Korea)
Dept. of Korean Studies
Ewha Woman's University, Seoul, Korea

Diss.: "유교, 과연 불평등한 사상인가?-유교의 평등원리: 차이의 인정과 과정의 중시"
지도교수: 최준식

2001 Training program for Classical Chinese Korean (1999~2001)
Classic Research Institute (민족문화추진회), at Seoul, Korea

1998 B.A. in Mass communication and Journalism
Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism
Ewha Woman's University, Seoul, Korea

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

CONFUCIANISM, NEO-CONFUCIANISM, EAST-ASIAN PHILOSOPHY, COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY,
COMPARATIVE RELIGION

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, College of Confucian Studies & Eastern Philosophy,
Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU) (March 2016 ~ present)

Postdoctoral Fellow at Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy (CEACOP),
at City University of Hong Kong (January 2014 ~ January 2016)

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Books

Traditional Korean Philosophy: Problems and Debates, edited by Youngsun Back and Philip J. Ivanhoe (London: Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016).

Book Chapters and Journal Articles

"Are Animals Moral?: Zhu Xi and Jeong Yakyong's Views on Nonhuman Animals." *Asian Philosophy* 28.2 (May, 2018): 97-116.

"Virtue and the Good Life in the Early Confucianism." *Journal of Religious Ethics* 46.1 (March, 2018): 37-62.

"Reconstructing Mozi's *Jian'ai* 兼愛." *Philosophy East and West* 67.4 (October, 2017): 1092-1117.

"Who Answered the Shang Diviner?: The Nature of Shang Divination." *Journal of Confucian Philosophy and Culture* 27 (Feb, 2017): 1-22.

"How Do Sages Differ from the Rest of Us?: The Views of Zhu Xi and Jeong Yakyong." In Youngsun Back and Philip J. Ivanhoe, eds., *Traditional Korean Philosophy: Problems and Debates* (London: Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016): 147-176.

"Confucian Heaven: Moral Economy and Contingency." *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 8.1 (Spring, 2016): 51-77.

"Fate and the Good Life: Zhu Xi and Jeong Yagyong's Discourse on *Ming* 命." *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 14.2 (June 2015): 255-274.

REVIEWS

"Review of Edward Y. J. Chung, *A Korean Confucian Way of Life and Thought: The Chasŏngnok (Record on Self-Reflection) by Yi Hwang (T'oegye), Translated, Annotated, and with an Introduction* (Korean Classics Library: Philosophy and Religion)." *Philosophy East and West* 68.2 (April, 2018): 626-629.

"Review of Franklin Perkins, *Heaven and Earth Are Not Humane: The Problem of Evil in Classical Chinese Philosophy*." *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2014.11.23).
<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/54193-heaven-and-earth-are-not-humane-the-problem-of-evil-in-classical-chinese-philosophy/>

WORK IN PROGRESS

Classics of Korean Philosophy, with PHILIP J. IVANHOE and SUNGMOON KIM.

Seven-volume book project of new English translations of Korean Confucian thinkers from Jeong Dojeon (鄭道傳 1337-1398) to Jeong Yagyong (丁若鏞 1762-1836). Hackett Publishing Company has offered us a contract for the entire series, which we hope to begin publishing in 2016-17.

Single-authored monograph, a historical study of the notion of *ming* 命 in the Confucian Tradition

PRESENTATIONS

“Rethinking Mozi’s *Jian’ai*,”

at ISCPW conference, Haining International Campus of Zhejiang University, China, June 10-12, 2018.

“Rethinking Mozi’s *Jian’ai*: A Deontological Reading,”

at CEACOP seminars, City University of Hong Kong, Feb 28, 2018.

“Whose Morality, Which Morality: Zhu Xi and Jeong Yakyong’s Views on Nonhuman Animals,”

Organizer of and Speaker for 4th Annual NAKPA (North American Korean Philosophy Association) Conference on “Why Korean Philosophy Today?: Its Relevance to the Twenty-First century,” Sungkyunkwan University, Oct 25-27, 2017.

“Three Layers of Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛,”

at 49th Annual SACP (Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy) Conference on “The Paradigm and Values of Chinese Philosophy within a Global Context,” Peking University, June 9-12, 2017.

“Rethinking Mozi,”

at Workshop on Legalism, Sungkyunkwan University, May 19, 2017.

“Three Layers of Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛,”

at 13th Annual Midwest Conference on Chinese Thought, Indiana University, April 21-22, 2017.

“Moral Economy and Contingency,”

Organizer of and Speaker for an international workshop *The Problem of Contingency in the East*, Sungkyunkwan University, June 23-24, 2016.

“Virtue and the Good Life in the Early Confucian Tradition,”

at 90th The American Philosophical Association-Pacific Division annual meeting for the panel: Virtues, Roles, and Self-Cultivation in Confucianism at The Westin St. Francis, San Francisco, March 30-April 3, 2016.

“Confucian Heaven and the Good Life,”

at In Pursuit of Wisdom: Ancient Chinese and Greek Perspectives on Cultivation,

at International Conference at UNSW Australia, Sydney, Jan 15-18, 2016.

“Sages and the Rest of Us: The Views of Zhu Xi and Jeong Yagyong,”
at the Annual NAKPA (North American Korean Philosophy Association) Conference,
at University of Toronto, Dec 4-5, 2015.

“Sages and the Rest of Us: The Views of Zhu Xi and Jeong Yagyong,”
at CEACOP, City University of Hong Kong, Nov 3, 2015.

“목자 겸애설의 재구성 (Reconstruction of Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛),”
at 중국고전철학회 (Association for Classical Chinese philosophy), Oct 30, 2015.

“Virtue and the Good Life in the Early Confucianism,”
at CEACOP, City University of Hong Kong, May 6, 2015.

“Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛 and Political Philosophy,”
at 89th The American Philosophical Association-Pacific Division annual meeting
for the panel: Non-Confucian Political Philosophy and Its Contemporary Relevance
at Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, April 1-4, 2015.

“Reconstruction of Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛,”
at Singapore-Hong Kong Symposium on Chinese Philosophy
at Nanyang Technological University, March 13-14, 2015.

“Reconstruction of Mozi’s *Jian’ai* 兼愛,”
at CEACOP, City University of Hong Kong, October 6, 2014.

“Confucian Heaven: Moral Economy and Contingency,”
at CEACOP, City University of Hong Kong, June 6, 2014.

“Fate and the Good Life: Zhu Xi and Dasan’s Discourse on *Ming* 命,”
at 9th Worldwide Consortium of Korean Studies Centers Workshop
at Peking University, Beijing, China, July 4-6, 2013.

“Fate and the Good Life: Zhu Xi and Dasan’s Discourse on *Ming* 命,”
at CEACOP, City University of Hong Kong, June 24, 2013.

“The Status of *Fu* 婦 in the Excavated ‘Liude’ 六德,”
at 57th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs
at St. Olaf College and Carleton College, October 10-12, 2008.

REFEREE FOR

Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy
Journal of Confucian Philosophy and Culture
Philosophy East and West
European Journal for Philosophy of Religion
동양철학

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sungkyunkwan University

2016 Fall. *Chinese Thought and Culture*

2016 Spring. *Ethics in East & West*

2016 Fall. *Chinese Thought and Culture*

City University of Hong Kong

2015 Spring. *Ethics and Public Policy, Tutor*

2015 Spring. *Environmental Ethics, Tutor*

2015 Spring. *Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy, Tutor*

University of Wisconsin-Madison

2005 Fall ~ 2009 Spring. Korean Language Program, Tutor

Seongsim Foreign Language University

2001 Spring. Kongzi and the *Analects*, Lecturer

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Member, The Association for Asian Studies

Member, American Philosophical Association

Member, American Academy of Religion

Member, North American Korean Philosophy Association

한국동양철학학회

중국고전철학회

한국실학학회

한국여성철학회

REFERENCES

MARK CSIKSZENTMIHALYI

Professor and Eliaser Chair of International Studies

and Chair of East Asian Languages and Cultures

University of California-Berkeley

e-mail: mark.cs@berkeley.edu

PHILIP J. IVANHOE

Chair Professor of East Asian & Comparative Philosophy & Religion

City University of Hong Kong

e-mail: pivanhoe@cityu.edu.hk

SUNGMOON KIM

Professor of Public Policy

City University of Hong Kong

e-mail: sungmkim@cityu.edu.hk