Welcome to attend VUB-CI Open Lectures

The VUB-CI offers a series of open lectures from March to June 2017. You are warmly welcome to register for these open lectures. Enrollment is free, but registration is required.

About Traditional Chinese Religions and Contemporary Society

Introduction
The series of open lectures is for undergraduate and graduate students, and anyone interested in Chinese culture. The main purpose of the course is to present the functions of traditional Chinese religions in traditional Chinese society and to rethink the role of these religions in the context of contemporary society. The lecture starts with the introduction of the characteristics of Chinese religions and the basic ideas of ‘God’ and ‘Heaven’ in Chinese culture. Next, Confucianism, Taoism, Chinese Buddhism and the meeting of Chinese religions and Christianity are investigated from a historical perspective. Additionally, the lecture will try to discuss how the traditional religions influence the daily life of Chinese people and how they help people face contemporary problems such as ecological crises and cultural differences in a modern multicultural society.

Outline of the Chinese Religion Open Lectures
- W1: Introduction: the nature of Chinese religions
- W2: The ancient ideas of “God” and “Heaven”
- W3: The debates on the religious status of Confucianism
- W4: The rise of Taoism as a religion
- W5: The Complementary relationship between Confucianism and Taoism
- W6: The characteristics and the main schools of Chinese Buddhism
- W7: The meeting of Chinese religions and Christianity: From The Tang Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty
- W8: The situation of religion in contemporary Chinese society
- W9: Traditional religions and the daily life of modern Chinese people
- W10: Traditional religions, cultural identity, and cultural dialogue

Dates and Time
Time: Thursday from 14:00 to 16:00
Dates: from 9 March 2017 until 26 May 2017
Classes are taught by Prof. Dr. Li Bingquan

Venue
VUB Campus, Room E.3.05
Etterbeek, 1050 Brussels

Registration
Email: vub-ci@vub.be