

Postgraduate/Distance Learning Assignment coversheet & feedback form

THIS SHEET MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ASSIGNMENT YOU ARE SUBMITTING
(DO NOT SEND AS A SEPARATE FILE)

For completion by the student:		
Student Name: Chunyuan Xue		
Module code: SIC7028	Student ID number: 1803718	Educational support needs: No
Module title: Interpretation of the Four Books		
Module tutor: Professor Zhongtan Huang Assignment due date: January 31, 2024, 15:00		
If your module has multiple submissions please indicate which piece of work this is. 1 st ☒ 2 nd ☐ 3 rd ☐ 4 th ☐ 5 th ☐ 6 th ☐		
Word count: 1900		
I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism. Signed <u>Chunyuan Xue</u>		
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Assignment Mark	
1st Marker's Provisional mark	
2nd Marker's/Moderator's provisional mark	
Agreed Internal Mark:	
External Examiner's mark (if relevant)	
Final Mark	
NB. All marks are provisional until confirmed by the Final Examination Board.	

For completion by Marker 1:

Comments:

Marker's signature:

Date:

For completion by Marker 2/Moderator:

Comments:

Marker's Signature:

Date:

AGREED INTERNAL MARK (where necessary):**Comment on process on arriving at agreed mark:****External Examiner's comments (if relevant)**

External Examiner's Signature:

Date:

Introductory Reading of Si Shu Zhang Ju Ji Zhu

四書章句集注



Module code: SICH7028
Module tutor: Professor Zhongtian Huang
Student name: Chunyuan Xue
Student ID: 1803718
Due date: 29 January 2024



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01

Author's Introduction



(1) Who is Zhu Xi?

Zhu Xi: (Chinese: 朱熹; October 18, 1130 – April 23, 1200)

He was a philosopher, Chinese calligrapher, historian, poet, and politician during the Song dynasty.

Ancestral home: Wuyuan婺源 County,
Shangrao上饒 City, Jiangxi江西 Province
Place of Birth: Youxi尤溪 County, Sanming
三明City, Fujian福建 Province.



(2) A Career in Politics

In the forty-eight years of his official career, he served as a local official for twenty-seven years, and as a lecturer at the imperial court for forty days, and he served as the governor of Nankang in Jiangxi Province, Zhangzhou in Fujian Province, and as governor of Zhejiang Province in the eastern part of the country. He was appointed as an official of the Huanzhangge (焕章阁) and as an attendant lecturer, and lectured for Emperor Ningzong of the Song Dynasty.



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Background of the Book



(1) Background of the Book

The Four Books 四書:

1. *The Great Learning* 大學

2. *The Analects of Confucius* 論語

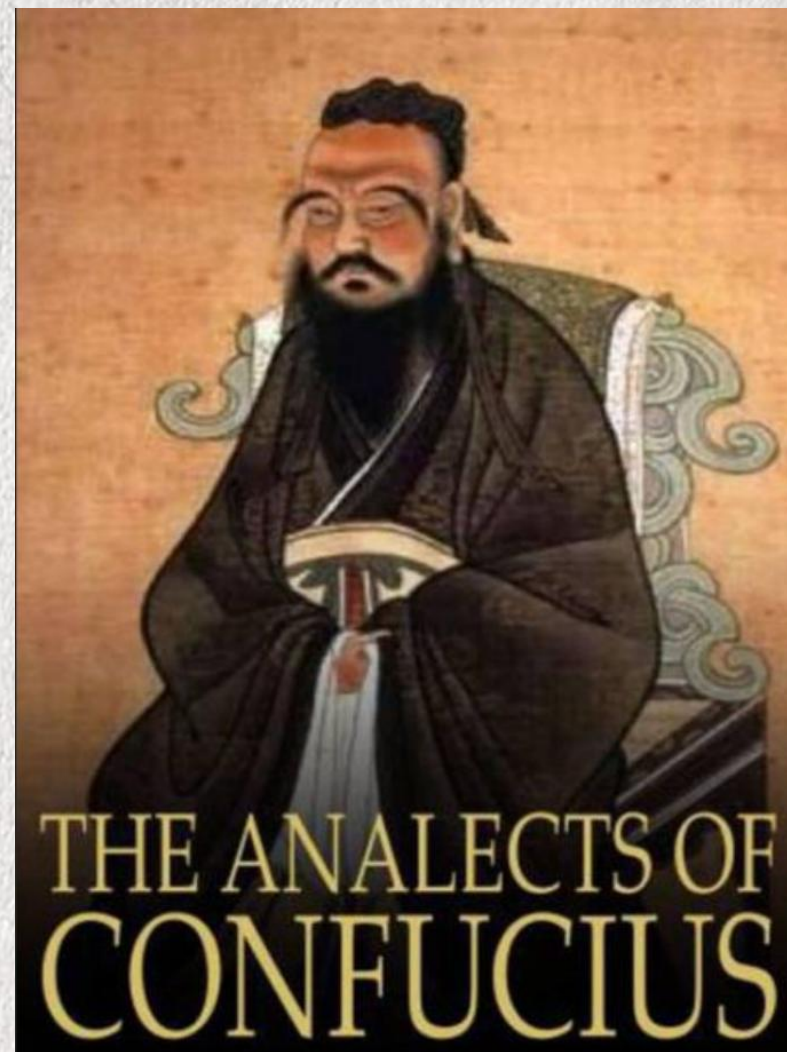
3. *The Mencius* 孟子

4. *The Doctrine of the Mean* 中庸



(2) *The Analects of Confucius*

During the reign of Emperor Wen of the Han Dynasty, doctoral officers were established (*Si Ku Zong Mu Ti Yao* 四庫總目提要: 自漢文帝時立博士.).



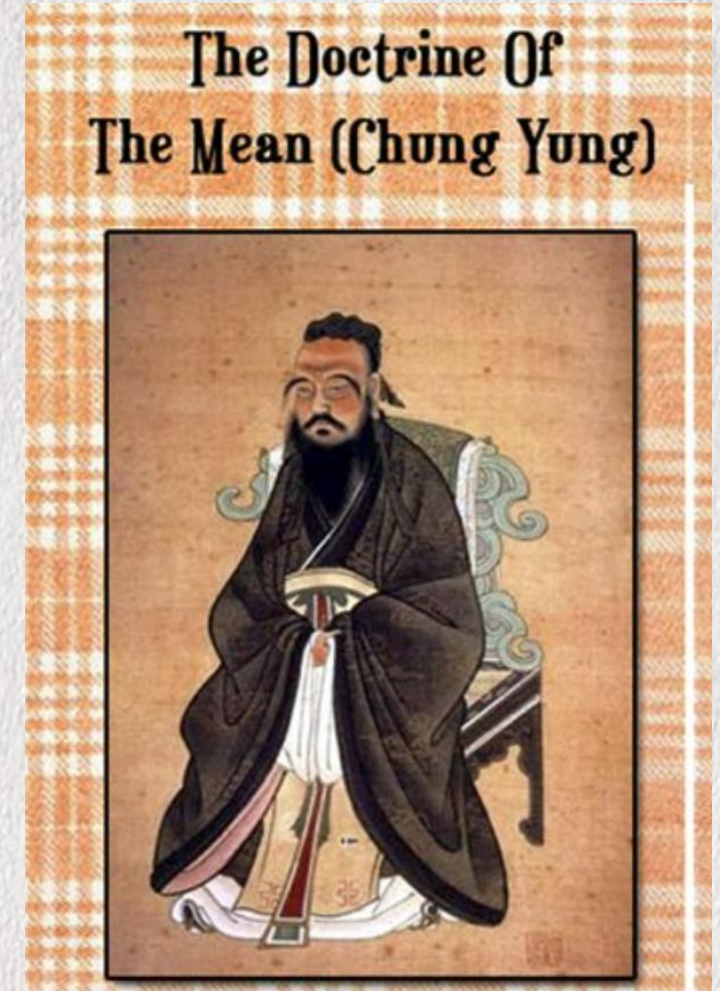
(3) *The Mencius*

An attempt to establish a BoShi (which is an official position responsible for the inheritance of a classic) was also made during the reign of Emperor Wen of Han, but it was not realised in the end.



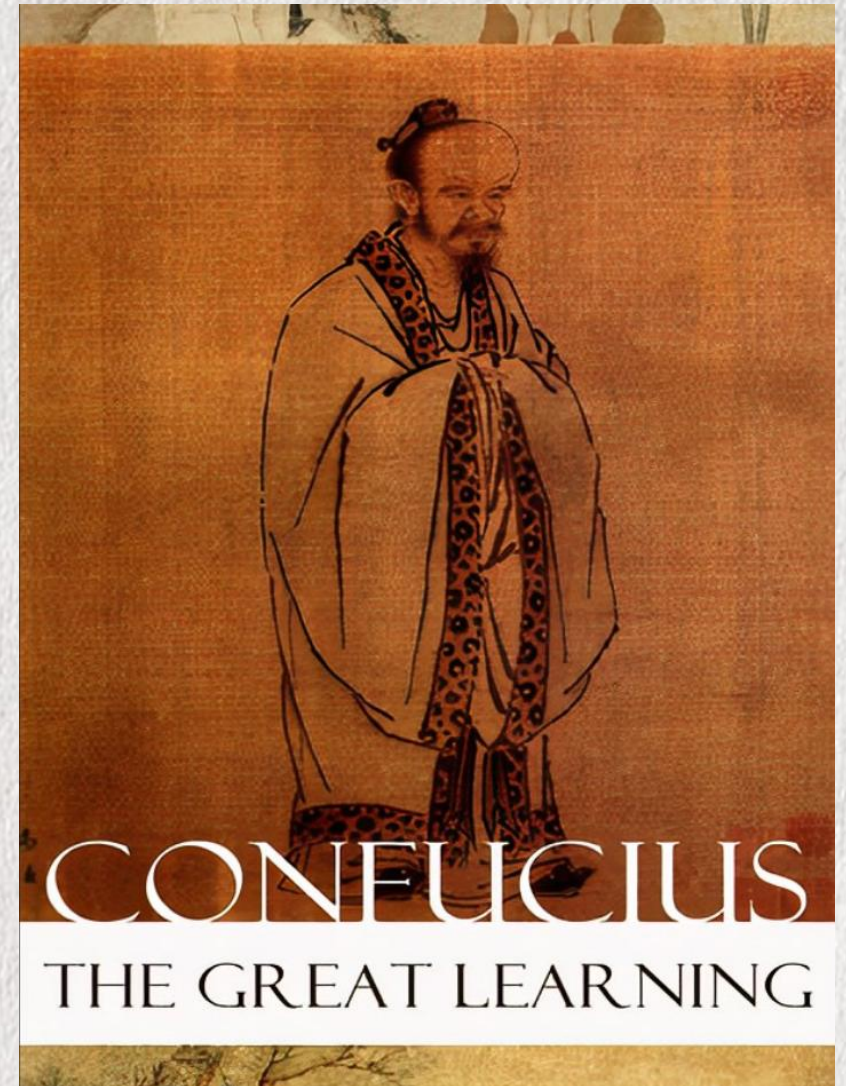
(4) *The Doctrine of the Mean*

It is mentioned in the *Han Shu Yi wen Zhi* 漢書藝文志 that there is a work called *Zhongyong Shuo* 中庸說. And in the *Sui Shu Jing ji Zhi* 隋書經籍志 there are is also have Dai Yong's *Zhong yong Zhuan* 中庸傳 and Emperor Wu of Liang dynasty's *Zhong yong jiang shu* 中庸講疏.



(5) *The Great Learning*

It is mentioned in the *Shu lu ti jie* 書錄題解 that Sima Guang 司馬光 had written the *Da xue guang yi* 大學廣義 and *Zhong yong guang yi* 中庸廣義, which also proves that some people had begun to pay attention to these two texts before Zhu Xi 朱熹 and Cheng Hao 程顥 and Cheng Yi 程頤.



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Book Description



(1) Book Description

Si Shu Zhang Ju Ji Zhu 四書章句集注:

Its contents are divided into 1 volume of *The Chapters and Phrases of the Great Learning* 大學章句, 1 volume of *The Chapters and Phrases of the Doctrine of the Mean* 中庸章句, 10 volumes of *The Collected Annotations of the Analects of Confucius* 論語集注, and 14 volumes of *The Collected Annotations of the Mencius* 孟子集注.

(1) Book Description

The Great Learning:

The original text of *The Great Learning* was originally a complete article without chapter segmentation. However, Zhu xi divided it into the Classic 經 and Commentaries 傳, rearranging its original sequence and supplementing missing passages.

(1) Book Description

The Doctrine of the Mean:

In the editing of *The Doctrine of the Mean*, Zhu Xi did not adopt Zheng Xuan's traditional segmentation, but re-divided the paragraphs without changing the content.

(1) Book Description

The Analects of Confucius , *Mencius*:

Zhu Xi incorporated the interpretations of others, hence the name Collected Annotations 集解. It just like when He Yan 何晏 was commenting on *The Analects of Confucius*, he gathered eight schools of thought and called them Collected Explanations 集解. The slight difference is that He Yan indicated the author's surname in the collection, whereas Zhu Xi indicated it in some places and not in others.

(2) Controversial Parts (*The Great Learning*)

‘Confucian scholars have different views on the chapters and verses of The Great Learning. However, the following sentence, "所謂誠其意者", is actually in the original text, and the part it creates is only a supplement to the chapter and verse. It is not in addition to the eight principles. Since it does not destroy the meaning nor is it unhelpful to scholars, why argue about it?(《大學》章句，諸儒頗有異同，然「所謂誠其意者」以下並用舊文，所特創者不過補《傳》一章，要非增於八條目外。既於理無害，又於學者不為無裨，何必分門角逐歟？)’

(2) Controversial Parts (*The Doctrine of the Mean*)

It is also recognised that Zhu Xi and the Song Confucians were more adept at analysing the sense. And when Zheng Xuan's explanation was very good, Zhu Xi would also adopt Zheng Xuan's commentary in its entirety. For example, Zhu Xi has adopted Zheng Xuan's interpretation of the four sentences of ‘戒慎乎其所不睹’ and the paragraph of ‘雖有其位’.

(2) Controversial Parts (*The Analects of Confucius* , *Mencius*)

The article ‘Hu lian瑚璉’ in *The Analects* is different from the *Ming Tang Ji* 明堂記, and the note on ‘Cao Jiao曹交’ in *the Mencius* does not fit in with the *Chun Qiu Zhuan* 春秋傳. However, Zhu Xi actually used the notes of Bao Xian包咸 and Zhao Qi趙岐 respectively, which were not made up by himself.

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Conclusion



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Thank you

