

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Geir Sigurdsson
Oddeyrargata 34
600-Akureyri
Iceland

Tel. +354-4608574 (office)/ +354-4627149 (home)
geirs@unak.is

Area of Specialization: Chinese and Comparative Philosophy

Areas of Competence: Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy, German Idealism,
American Pragmatism, Philosophy of Education, Contemporary
Chinese studies.

Academic Education:

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, USA
Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy, December 2004.

Dissertation: *Learning through Li: The Confucian Process of Humanization through
Ritual Propriety.*

Supervisor: Roger T. Ames.

University College Cork, National University of Ireland
Master of Arts in Philosophy, October 1997.

Thesis: *The World as Myth and Mechanism: Giacomo Leopardi vs Kant and the
Enlightenment.*

Supervisor: Kath Jones.

University of Iceland
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Sociology, June 1994.

Thesis: *The last Human Beings: Nietzsche and Weber on the Value of Values and the
Truth about Truth.*

Supervisor: Vilhjálmur Árnason.

Other higher education:

2001-2003: Renmin University of China (Zhongguo renmin daxue), Beijing, P.R. China:
Chinese studies and philosophy. Advanced Studies Certificate (*Jinxu zhengshu*), awarded
July 2003.

1998-1999: Christian-Albrechts-Universität, Kiel, Germany: Chinese studies.

1993-1994: Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany: studies in philosophy as ERASMUS
exchange student.

Academic honours, Scholarships and Fellowships:

February 2005: Nordic Guest Researcher Scholarship at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies,
Copenhagen, Denmark.

August 2002-December 2004: East-West Center Fellow, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA.

April 2004: Nordic Guest Researcher Scholarship at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies,
Copenhagen, Denmark.

August 2002-May 2004: Wing-tsit Chan Scholarship in Chinese Philosophy.

September 2001-July 2003: Scholarship from the China Scholarship Council.

October 1999-May 2002: Grant from the Fulbright Foundation.

October 1998-July 1999: Scholarship from the city of Kiel, Germany.

CURRICULUM VITAE

September 1995-June 1997: Studentship from the University College Cork, Ireland.

September 1993-April 1994: ERASMUS exchange scholarship at the Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany.

July 1993-August 1993: Scholarship from DAAD (*Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst*).

Permanent Academic Employment:

August 2006-present: Director of Icelandic Centre of Asian Studies, University of Iceland/University of Akureyri.

August 2006-present: Assistant Professor in Faculty of Education, University of Akureyri, Iceland.

August 2005-July 2006: Assistant Professor in Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, Iceland.

August 2000-July 2001: Teaching Assistant in philosophy at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa (philosophy of education, philosophy for children).

September 1995-June 1997: Tutor in philosophy at University College Cork, Ireland (ethics, philosophy of mind).

Courses Taught:

Philosophy of Education, Faculty of Education, University of Akureyri, Iceland, spring term 2006, spring term 2007.

Ethics and Life Skills, Faculty of Education, University of Akureyri, Iceland, spring term 2006, spring term 2007.

Introduction to Chinese Philosophy (intensive course within Erasmus exchange programme), Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy, December 2006.

Critical Thinking – Selected Readings in Philosophy, Faculty of Social Sciences, Bifrost University, Iceland, autumn term 2006.

Contemporary Chinese Culture, Continuous Education, University of Akureyri, spring term 2006.

Working Methods in Social Sciences, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, autumn term 2005.

Critical Assessment of Information, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, autumn term 2005.

Introduction to Western Philosophy, Institute of International Relations (*Guoji guanxi xueyuan*), Beijing, P.R. China, September-October 2001.

Service:

June 2004-July 2005: Author and editor of an history of philosophy and other topics at Skólavefurinn ehf., a web-based company specializing in the production of material for educational institutes in Iceland.

August 2000-May 2001: Facilitator in the program of Philosophy with Children, supervised by Dr. Thomas Jackson at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

February 1998-May 1998: Editorial management and part-translation (into Icelandic) of *The History of Philosophy* by G. Skirbekk & N. Gilje (Norwegian: *Filosofihistori*). Reykjavík: University of Iceland Press, 1999.

Presentations:

“Building Bridges – On the Importance of Cultural Literacy in Doing Business with China.” Presented at Reykjavik University, 23 November 2006.

“Defeatists, Cynics and Pragmatists: The Birth of Philosophy from the Spirit of War.” Presented at *Academie-du-Midi Conference*, Alet-les-Bains, France, 5-9 June 2006.

CURRICULUM VITAE

- “Establishing Oneself by Establishing Others’: On Gadamer’s Bildung and Confucius’ Xiushen.” Presented at the *Fourth Annual Conference of The Nordic Society of Phenomenology*, Reykjavík, Iceland, 21-23 April 2006.
- “Hun Dun and the Butterfly in Beijing – Reflections on China of the Future.” Presented before the Icelandic Chinese Trade Council, Reykjavík, Iceland, 27 January 2006.
- “Initiating While not Proceeding to the End’: A Confucian Response to Indoctrination.” Presented at the *Ninth East-West Philosophers’ Conference. Educations and Their Purposes: A Philosophical Dialogue Among Cultures*, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawai‘i, USA, 29 May-10 June 2005.
- “Difference, Context and Application: The Quest for Approach in Comparative Philosophy.” Invited paper at the Department of Philosophy, University of Rijeka, Croatia, 15 December 2004.
- “Optimism (*le*) and Activism (*wei*): Establishing the Confucian Way through *Renxing*.” Presented at *Asian Studies: Problems and Issues*, conference organized by the Centre of Oriental Studies, University of Vilnius, Lithuania, 6-8 May 2004.
- “Chinese Hermeneutics and the Future of Confucianism in China: A Philosophical Approach.” Invited paper at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark, 30 April 2004.
- “*Wujianshi* (In the World of Creatures) – On Non-Human Figures in the Zhuangzi”. Presented for the Department of Philosophy, Huazhong University of Science and Technology (Huazhong keji daxue), Wuhan, P.R. China, 2 July 2001, and at *The 12th International Conference on Chinese Philosophy*, Beijing, P.R. China, 21-24 July 2001.
- “A Just Process or Just a Process – Contrasts of Early Greek and Ancient Chinese Thought”. Presented at *Chinese Culture in Global Dialogue*, an international academic conference organized by the Institute of Modern Chinese Thought and Culture, East China Normal University, Shanghai, P.R. China, 25-27 June 2001.
- “Work-Worship, Asceticism and the Vicious Circle of Consumption: An Icelandic Variation on a Theme by Max Weber” (Icelandic). Presented at *Is work killing us?*, conference organized by the Institute of Ethics, University of Iceland, 25 April 1998.
- “Pain, Boredom and Art: The Philosophy of Giacomo Leopardi”. Invited paper for the Philosophical Society, Reykjavík, Iceland, 7 February 1998.
- “Max Weber and the Rationalization of Occidental Thought.” Presented at *Ethics and European Thought*, M.A. philosophy conference organized by the National University of Ireland, University College Dublin, 25 April 1996.

Articles:

- “Initiating While not Proceeding to the End’: A Confucian Response to Indoctrination.” Forthcoming in *Educations and Their Purposes: A Philosophical Dialogue Among Cultures*.
- “Broadening the Way: On Commensurability Between Derrida’s philosophy and Chinese Philosophical Narratives” (Icelandic). Co-authored with Ralph Weber. *Hugur, Journal of the Icelandic Philosophical Society* 17 (2005): 167-183.
- “Wandering Beyond the Bounds: Nomadism, Health and Self-Undermining.” Co-authored with Steve Coutinho. *Journal of Nietzsche-Studies* 28 (2004): 70-88.
- “Optimism (*le*) and Activism (*wei*): Establishing the Confucian Way through *Renxing*.” *Acta Orientalia Vilnensia* 5 (2004): 104-115.
- “Tamen shifou neng jiejie bici de wenti? — Luoersi yu gudai zhongguo ‘zhengyi’ lixiang de jiaogan” (“Can They Resolve Each Others’ Problems? John Rawls’s and Ancient Chinese Ideals of ‘Justice’ in Interaction”), translated into Chinese by He Jinli. *Journal of the Department of Chinese Studies (Zhongwen zixue zhidao)*, East China Normal University, Shanghai, P.R. China, 06 (2004): 45-51.

CURRICULUM VITAE

“Among the Ten Thousand Things. Tang Junyi and the Special Characteristics of Chinese Cosmology” (Icelandic). *Hugur, Journal of the Icelandic Philosophical Society* 15 (2003): 52-65.

“‘Pure Christianity!’. The ‘Pre-judgements’ of the Understanding and the Misunderstanding of Chinese Philosophy” (Icelandic). *Skírnir, Journal of the Icelandic Literary Society* 181 (spring 2003): 69-88.

“The Work of Art in the Age of Digital Simulation: Walter Benjamin Revisited”. *Literature and Aesthetics, The Journal of the Sydney Society of Aesthetics* 11 (2001): 51-73.

“Pain, Boredom and Art: The Philosophy of Giacomo Leopardi” (Icelandic). *Hugur, Journal of the Icelandic Philosophical Society* 10-11 (1998-1999): 23-50.

“Work-Worship, Asceticism and the Vicious Circle of Consumption: An Icelandic Variation on a Theme by Max Weber” (Icelandic). *Skírnir, Journal of the Icelandic Literary Society* 172 (autumn 1998): 339-357.

Reviews:

“Review of *Elias Canetti’s Counter-Image of Society. Crowds, Power, Transformation*, by Johann P. Arnason and David Roberts (Icelandic). *Hugur, Journal of the Icelandic Philosophical Society* 16 (2004): 267-70.

“Review of *Encyclopedia of Chinese Philosophy*, edited by Antonio S. Cua.” *China Review International* 11, no. 1 (2004): 48-54.

Dictionary Entries:

Dictionary of Philosophy. Fields of contribution: Continental European philosophy and Asian philosophy (mainly Chinese, Buddhist, Hindu). Editor: Dr. Erlendur Jónsson, Professor of Philosophy, University of Iceland; forthcoming in 2005 by Mál og Menning Publishers, Reykjavík.

Edited Book:

Broddflugur - Siðfræðilegar ádeilur og samfélagsgagnrýni (Gadflies - Ethical Disputations and Social Criticism). Including “Introduction” (pp. 9-25). Collected papers of Dr. Vilhjálmur Árnason, Professor of Philosophy, University of Iceland. Reykjavík: University of Iceland Press, 1997.

Chapter in book:

“*Wujianshi* (In the World of Creatures) – On Non-Human Figures in the Zhuangzi”, in *Di 12 jie guoji zhongguo zhexue dahui lunwenji 4, Chinese Philosophy and the Trends of the 21st Century Civilization*, ed. Fang Keli, Beijing: Commercial Press, 2003: 243-258.

Biographical introductions:

“Who was Confucius and what is Confucianism,” on *Vísindavefurinn* (science website), maintained and edited by the University of Iceland, <http://visindavefur.hi.is/?id=6140> (2006)

“On the philosopher Francis Bacon,” on *Vísindavefurinn* (science website), maintained and edited by the University of Iceland, <http://visindavefur.hi.is/svar.asp?id=5570> (2006)

“Who was St. Thomas of Aquinas?” on *Vísindavefurinn* (science website), maintained and edited by the University of Iceland, <http://visindavefur.hi.is/svar.asp?id=5563> (2006)

“Karl Jaspers (1883-1969)”, in *Hvað er heimspeki? Tíu greinar frá tuttugustu öld (What is Philosophy? Ten Twentieth Century Articles)*, ed. Róbert Jack and Ármann Halldórsson, Reykjavík: Hugvísindastofnun Háskóla Íslands, 2001: 83-84.

“Ernst Bloch (1886-1977)”, in *Hvað er heimspeki? Tíu greinar frá tuttugustu öld (What is Philosophy? Ten Twentieth Century Essays)*, ed. Róbert Jack and Ármann Halldórsson, Reykjavík: Hugvísindastofnun Háskóla Íslands, 2001: 211-212.

CURRICULUM VITAE

“Hans Henny Jahnn (1894-1959)”, in Hans Henny Jahnn, *Blýnótt (Die Nacht aus Blei)*, translated by Geir Sigurðsson and Björn Thorsteinsson. Reykjavík: Tekknólamb/Forlagid, 2000: 125-137.

Translations:

Karl Jaspers, “Heimspekin í heiminum” (“Die Philosophie in der Welt”), in *Hvað er heimspeki? Tíu greinar frá tuttugustu öld (What is Philosophy? Ten Twentieth Century Essays)*, ed. Róbert Jack and Ármann Halldórsson. Reykjavík: Hugvísindastofnun Háskóla Íslands, 2001: 85-95.

Ernst Bloch, “Hvað er heimspeki, sem leitandi og freistandi” (Was ist Philosophie, als suchend und versucherisch?), in *Hvað er heimspeki? Tíu greinar frá tuttugustu öld (What is Philosophy? Ten Twentieth Century Essays)*, ed. Róbert Jack and Ármann Halldórsson. Reykjavík: Hugvísindastofnun Háskóla Íslands, 2001: 213-219.

Hans Henny Jahnn, *Blýnótt (Die Nacht aus Blei)*, co-translated with Björn Thorsteinsson. Reykjavík: Tekknólamb/Forlagid, 2000.

Giacomo Leopardi, “Saga mannsins” (“Storia del genere umano”). *Skirnir, Journal of the Icelandic Literary Society* 170 (autumn 1996): 413-26.

Educational Material:

“On the Condition of Women in Ancient China,” on *Visindavefurinn* (science website), maintained and edited by the University of Iceland, <http://visindavefur.hi.is/?id=6137> (2006)

“On Chinese Society,” on *Visindavefurinn* (science website), maintained and edited by the University of Iceland, <http://visindavefur.hi.is/?id=6153> (2006)

Philosophers Before and Now. A history of Western philosophy (Icelandic). Five sections, 111 pages. http://www.skolavefurinn.is/_opid/islenska/bokmenntir/heimspeki/ (2005)

Works in progress:

Confucian Education: A Philosophical Interpretation for the Present. Book manuscript.

Edited book on China in Icelandic.

“Chinese Religions” – chapter in above-mentioned book.

“Mediating Cultures – Reflections from Hawaii and China”, invited talk on Philosophy for Children to be held at the University of Iceland, Reykjavík, in January 2007.

Professional affiliations:

Member of the *Icelandic Philosophical Society*, Reykjavík, Iceland.

Member of the *Reykjavik Academy*, community of independent scholars, Reykjavík, Iceland.

Language Study and Certification:

2001-2003.: Renmin University of China (Zhongguo renmin daxue), Beijing, P.R. China: courses in Chinese language and philosophy.

January-March 1996: Alliance Française, Cork, Ireland: Courses in French.

December 1995: University of Cambridge: Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE).

May-June 1994: Istituto Dante Alighieri, Rome, Italy: Intensive courses in Italian.

March 1994: Freie Universität, Berlin: Prüfung zum Nachweis deutscher Sprachkenntnisse Certificate (PNdS).

August 1993: Goethe Institut, Schwäbisch Hall, Germany: Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache.

Languages:

Icelandic: native.

English: fluent.

CURRICULUM VITAE

German: fluent.

Mandarin Chinese: fluent.

Classical Chinese: good.

Danish: good.

Italian: good.

Norwegian, Swedish: reading knowledge.

French: reading knowledge.

What does academic education mean? education in the principles of the subject or course. In veterinary science this includes anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, nutrition, genetics, general pathology, microbiology and parasitology. Complemented by vocational education aimed at the more practical aspects of the profession. Want to thank TFD for its existence? Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page An academy (Attic Greek: ἀκαδημία; Koine Greek ἀκαδημία) is an institution of secondary education, higher learning, research, or honorary membership. Academia is the worldwide group composed of professors and researchers at institutes of higher learning. The name traces back to Plato's school of philosophy, founded approximately 385 BC at Akademia, a sanctuary of Athena, the goddess of wisdom and skill, north of Athens, Greece.