Back Cover

CHINESE PHILOSOPHY • PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

"Bo Mou has a rare combination of skills. He is thoroughly familiar with contemporary semantic theory and the formal logic that lies behind it, and he has a scholarly background in traditional Chinese philosophy. Moreover, he knows how to bring these two together. *Semantic-Truth Approaches in Chinese Philosophy* is sure to stimulate discussion not only about the interpretation of Chinese philosophy but also on what is universal and what is culture-specific in the ways we think and talk."
—**ADAM MORTON**, University of British Columbia

"The culmination of decades of research and reflection, this important book accomplishes three things at once. First, it reorients scholarly attention toward the importance in Chinese philosophy of the pre-theoretic concern to capture the way things are, which Mou calls a 'truth concern.' Second, this book shows how various philosophical elaborations in early China of this pre-theoretical concern are well explained as contributing to a distinctive and attractive pluralist account of truth. Finally, by taking these two points together, we are treated to a model of constructive, cross-cultural philosophical engagement. Students of Chinese philosophy and philosophers interested in the concept of truth both have much to gain from this impressive volume."
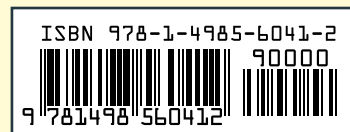—**STEPHEN C. ANGLE**, Wesleyan University

Semantic-Truth Approaches in Chinese Philosophy explains a distinctive pluralist account of truth: jointly rooted perspectivism (JRP for short). This explanation unifies various representative and philosophically interesting truth-concern approaches in early Chinese philosophy on the basis of people's pre-theoretic understanding of truth. Bo Mou explains how JRP provides interpretative resources to identify and explain one unifying line that runs through those distinct truth-concern approaches and how they can thus complement each other and contribute to the contemporary study of the issue of truth. Mou further strengthens JRP by interpreting representative truth-concern approaches in Yi-Jing philosophy, Gongsun Long's philosophy, later Mohist philosophy, classical Confucianism, and classical Daoism. He defends JRP as an original, unifying pluralist account in the context of cross-tradition philosophical engagement, which can also effectively engage with other accounts of truth (including other types of pluralist accounts) in contemporary philosophy. There are two purposes of this book: (1) to enhance our understanding and treatment of the truth concern as one strategic foundation of various movements of thought in classical Chinese philosophy that are intended to capture "how things are"; and (2) to explore how the relevant resources in Chinese philosophy can contribute to the contemporary exploration of the philosophical issue of truth in philosophically interesting and engaging ways.

BO MOU is professor of philosophy at San Jose State University.

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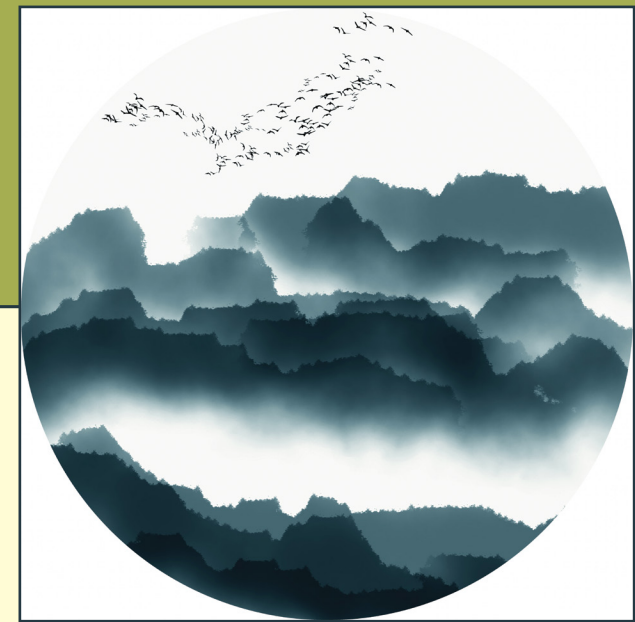
SEMANTIC-TRUTH APPROACHES IN CHINESE PHILOSOPHY

Front Cover

SEMANTIC-TRUTH APPROACHES IN CHINESE PHILOSOPHY

A Unifying Pluralist Account

BO MOU