

The Principles of Effective Interaction eCourse

General Information:

Too often, the work of personal growth amounts to little more than exchanging one set of beliefs and opinions for another. Because this cannot bring you any closer to the truth, and does not effect a real transformation, many people give up. Even those who expend great energy and commitment can simply lose hope of finding a study worth pursuing. You might feel that you have exhausted all possibilities of encountering a truly transformative direction of study. The serious students of Cheng Hsin would tell you to take heart and open yourself up to another possibility. The Cheng Hsin work is real, and it is powerful and deep enough to take you as far as you want to go.

What we call "the Cheng Hsin work" is an unusually broad study encompassing both physical effectiveness and transformational mind work. Years ago when contemplation work improved my martial skills so remarkably, I came to use martial arts as a grounded way to look into mind, perception, and effectiveness. Most of the courses offered here deal primarily with mind or being (the ontology), but the interactive and body-being courses also include work with mind, perception, and other non-physical aspects of study. Without exception, all the Cheng Hsin work deals with improving the quality of a student's understanding, perception, and experience.

Not everyone can personally attend the ontology intensives and workshops, so last year some of the "regulars" requested that I create an alternative format through e-courses. At first it seemed strange to teach through electronic means, but the communication is the same regardless of the medium. After all, the "study of being" is a fairly universal endeavor that reaches across all boundaries: cultural, personal, and now geographical.

This structure works so well that I've expanded the courses and made them available to anyone who is willing to make a commitment. I've been busy creating a variety of e-courses based on three decades of Cheng Hsin ontology workshops. Newcomers are welcome, and regular students can continue their studies year-round while they live their daily lives. The current year-long eCourses are:

- ◆ Transcending The Self – A Mind Course
- ◆ Transforming Your Experience of Relationship
- ◆ The Principles of Effective Interaction
- ◆ The Principles of An Effortlessly Effective Body-Being
- ◆ The Power of Contemplation

No matter where you are in the world, or where you are in your work on "self," there's something here that will further your efforts. You can immerse yourself in a serious investigation of the nature of your own mind, or explore the nature of relationship and effective interaction. You can take on a course in powerful solo contemplation, or even study and train to improve the way you use your body.

Most of the work will address your mind and perceptions, your reactions and behavior. You will learn to question the nature of your perceived reality, and the assumptions that found such

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perceptions. All of the courses are roughly one year long so they represent a real commitment to and opportunity for personal growth

Taking on one of these courses requires commitment. The lessons are designed to build upon each other, leading you to new understanding and experiences that simply do not occur outside a structured format. You may experience emotional reactions as some aspect of your self is challenged. This is generally a positive occurrence, but it's wise to make a commitment strong enough to see you through the more difficult lessons. I will be available to answer questions and monitor your progress. From time to time I will provide feedback to facilitate your understanding, but you and you alone must do the work. These courses evolved over years of teaching thousands of people, many of whom write 20 years later to tell me that their study of Cheng Hsin was the best and most life-altering commitment they ever made. I understand -- it's my life's work as well.

All online students should consider attending the Fall and Spring workshops at the Cheng Hsin Center in Texas. These are intense and impactful events, and will allow you the opportunity to venture into realms of experience that are virtually impossible to approach by yourself. Your daily studies will be powerfully energized as you proceed from a whole new level of understanding.

Each course generally consists of 40 lesson plans given over a twelve month period. Every week or so you will receive an e-mail containing the week's daily lessons on a new theme. Each week you will have a specific assignment -- usually in the form of a question or something to observe throughout the day. Most weeks you'll also be given an exercise or writing assignment to help clarify and ground that week's lesson.

The lessons themselves are often fairly short and simple, but they're meant to be contemplated and experienced rather than just read. They're also progressive so it's important to keep up. People report that spending even a few minutes on an assignment will resonate with them all day, even when life's demands encroach on personal study time. The work is always about you and your own experience, so most of it can be done simply in the course of living your life. Of course, the more you put into creating an experience of the assignment, the deeper your understanding will be.

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**THE PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERACTION**  
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The PEI is an investigation into the "facts" of psycho-physical interaction. Rather than improving our experience of social relationship, as in the TER, our goal in this course is to identify and practice the components of effective interaction. The emphasis here is on interaction where those involved are relating from self-interest, often competitively, such as in sports, business, public speaking, sales, recreation, martial arts, games, etc. The purpose of such interactions is to accomplish a predetermined result – make a sale, throw an opponent, win the chess or tennis match, run a business, etc. Success in such relationships requires the ability to

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manage conflict. Since the goals and interests of the parties involved are disparate, and often antithetical, conflict will tend to arise in some form. Simply interacting with others in life often necessitates conflict resolution.

The purpose of the course is to gain an understanding of the nature of effective interaction, as well as to identify anything that stands in the way of relating effectively. To accomplish this, you will learn to observe and question your actions, your motivations, your perceptions, and the functions of your mind. You will learn about the components and principles that make up interaction, and especially effective interaction, moving toward an ability to interact more skillfully.

Reading should include, but isn't limited to:

The Art of Effortless Power – "Book II"

Zen Body-Being

The cost of the course is \$493 for the year, payable in full when you sign up. You can begin at any time and the course will run for a year from then.