

FRST 101: Freshman Studies II Winter 2011
Instructor: Stoneking
Handout #1: ZHUANGZI, BASIC WRITINGS

Monday 28 February 2011:

- For Monday's class, read sections 1-3 of Zhuangzi (pp. 23-48). These sections are titled
 1. Free and Easy Wandering
 2. Discussion on Making All Things Equal
 3. The Secret of Caring for Life

- Before reading this book, drop all expectations you have about consistency and clarity and logical argument. Pay attention to the stories and to the metaphors. See if you can begin to form an impression of what things in life or in the world concern Zhuangzi and what things do not. Look for recurring themes and images.

- Pay special attention to the following passages (be prepared to offer your reactions to these passages and any others that grab your attention):
 - The short-lived and the long-lived ... the big and the little (pp. 24-25)
 - The story of the large gourd (pp. 28-29)
 - The useless tree (pp. 29-30)
 - "this" and "that" (p. 35)
 - "There is a beginning..." (p. 38)
 - The butterfly dream (p. 44)
 - The story of Cook Ding (pp. 45-46)