## Contents

List of Illustrations xi  
Preface: Why Confucius? xii  
Book Notes xiv  
Chronology xv  

1 Confucius’ World and His Life 1  
Confucius’ World: Looking Back to a Long, Unified Civilization 2  
The Zhou Dynasty 2  
Ancestors and Spirits 4  
Heaven and the “Choice of Heaven” 4  
The Decline of the Zhou Dynasty and the Rise of the Warring States 5  
The Life of Confucius 9  
Sources 10  
Versions of the Texts 10  
Hagiography, the Pious Stories of Confucius’ Life 11  
Scholarly Versions of Confucius’ Life 16  

2 Confucius’ Teachings I: The Foundation of a Good Person 23  
Filial Piety 23  
Dutifulness or Loyalty 29  
Honesty and Sincerity 30  
Rightness and Knowledge 31  
Courage 31  
Understanding, Sympathy, Compassion 32  
Humanity 34
Ritual 35
The Gentleman 42

3 Confucius’ Teachings II: The Foundation of a Good Society and Other Topics 45
Setting Words Right 46
For the Benefit of the People 48
Laws 49
Models 50
Education without Distinction 54
Women 55
The Gods, the Spirits of the Dead, and the Afterlife 57
The Choice of Heaven and Heaven 59
Fate 60
The Way 61

4 Terms, and Mozi 63
Problems with “Schools” and “-isms” 63
Problems with the Term “Confucianism” 65
Mozi and Mohism 69

5 Opponents 75
Daoism 75
The Strategists 80
The Logicians 82
Legalism 83
Others 85

6 Mencius 87
Human Nature is Good 89
Human Nature and Heaven 95
Government 96
Mencius on Confucian Themes 99
Summary 103

7 Xunzi 105
Human Nature is Evil 106
Morality is Artificial 109
Ritual 110
Government 111
Language 113
Heaven 114
Xunzi on Confucian Themes 116
Summary 118
8 Confucians, “Confucian” Texts, and the Qin Dynasty 119
   Other Confucian Groups 119
   Confucius and “Confucian” Texts 121
   The First Emperor and the Reunification of China 128

9 The Han Dynasty, 206 BCE–220 CE 132
   History and Development 132
   The Classics in the Han 134
   The New Text School 134
   The Yin-Yang Theory 135
   Qi 137
   The Five Phases 139
   The Status of Confucius 140
   The Old Text School 140
   Other Confucian Texts in the Han Dynasty 143
   Summary 144

10 From the Han to the Tang Dynasties, 220–907 CE 146
   Buddhism and Its Development 146
   Confucianism from the Han to the Tang Dynasties 148
   Civil Service Examinations and the Imperial Civil Service 148
   The Civil Service 151
   The Status of Confucius in Imperial China 151
   Confucian Temples 152
   Confucius as a God 154
   Confucianism outside of China: Korea, Japan, and Vietnam 155
   Summary 158

11 Neo-Confucianism 159
   The Northern and Southern Song Dynasties 159
   Neo-Confucianism 160
   Issues in Neo-Confucianism 161
   Early Neo-Confucian Thinkers 161
   Zhu Xi (1130–1200) and Li Xue, the School of Principle 165
   The School of Mind/Heart 171
   Wang Yangming 172
   Summary 174

12 Confucianism and Modernity 176
   The Qing Dynasty, 1644–1911 176
   Kang Youwei (1858–1927) and the Reform of Confucianism 177
   The May 4th Movement 178
   The Guomindang and the New Life Movement 180
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Communist Party and the Communist Government</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Confucians</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucianism as the Foundation of Chinese Culture</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance/Application</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Confucian Core</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucianism as Religion</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Values</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governments: Taiwan, Singapore, and China</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critics of New Confucianism</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Confucianism’s Impact and Importance</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Issues</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is Confucianism?</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democracy</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Emphasis on the Economy</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritual</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filial Piety</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-cultivation</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does Confucianism Include Women? Can Confucianism Include Women?</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critics</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary of Names and Terms</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestions for Further Reading</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>