

The Limits of Confucian Soft Power in the United States

儒家軟實力在美國的局限性

Sam Crane

W. Van Alan Clark '41 Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences
Williams College (Massachusetts, USA) (美國威廉姆斯学院)



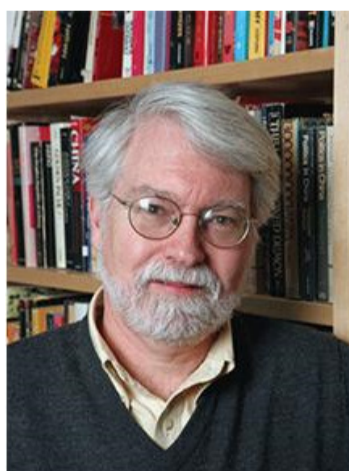
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In the past fifteen years, the government of the People's Republic of China has developed a global soft power strategy in which Confucianism figures prominently. This policy rests on the assumption that Confucian philosophy is not only globally transferrable but also capable of attracting a significant number of adherents in different social and political contexts. Focusing on the case of the United States, I will argue that while transferability, or what I term "philosophical transposition," is possible, it is improbable due to specific social and political obstacles.

在過去十五年內，中華人民共和國政府制定了一項突出了特色儒家思想的全球軟實力戰略。這個政策是基於假設儒家思想不但是全球流通，而且能夠在不同社會與政治環境下吸引相當多的數量。專注在美國的事件上，我將會議論可轉移性，或我會稱為“哲學換位”是有可能的，對於一些特定的社會和政治障礙這是不可行的。



Sam Crane is W. Van Alan Clark '41 Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences at Williams College (Massachusetts, USA) where he teaches courses on contemporary Chinese politics and ancient Chinese philosophy. He is the author of *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Dao: Ancient Chinese Thought in Modern American Life* (Wiley Blackwell) and writes extensively about ancient Chinese political philosophy on his blog, *The Useless Tree* (<http://uselesstree.typepad.com>).



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