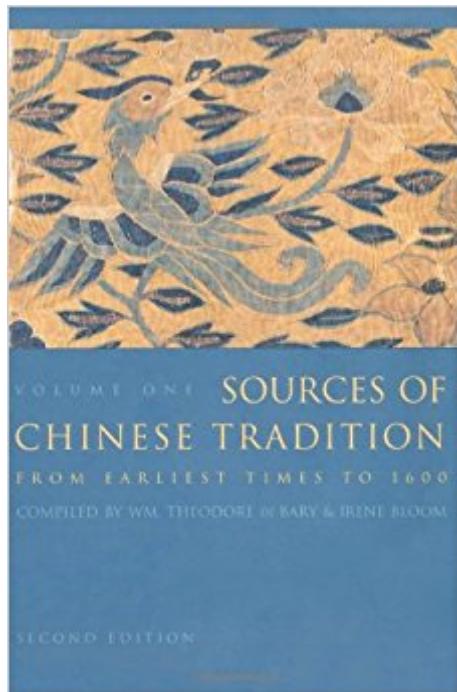


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# Sources Of Chinese Tradition, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

A collection of seminal primary readings on the social, intellectual, and religious traditions of China, Sources of Chinese Tradition, Volume 1 has been widely used and praised for almost forty years as an authoritative resource for scholars and students and as a thorough and engaging introduction for general readers. Here at last is a completely revised and expanded edition of this classic sourcebook, compiled by noted China scholars Wm. Theodore de Bary and Irene Bloom. Updated to reflect recent scholarly developments, with extensive material on popular thought and religion, social roles, and women's education, this edition features new translations of more than half the works from the first edition, as well as many new selections. Arranged chronologically, this anthology is divided into four parts, beginning at the dawn of literate Chinese civilization with the Oracle-Bone inscriptions of the late Shang dynasty (1571–1045 B.C.E.) and continuing through the end of the Ming dynasty (C.E. 1644). Each chapter has an introduction that provides useful historical context and offers interpretive strategies for understanding the readings. The first part, The Chinese Tradition in Antiquity, considers the early development of Chinese civilization and includes selections from Confucius's Analects, the texts of Mencius and Laozi, as well as other key texts from the Confucian, Daoist, and Legalist schools. Part 2, The Making of a Classical Culture, focuses on Han China with readings from the Classic of Changes (*I Jing*), the Classic of Filiality, major Han syntheses, and the great historians of the Han dynasty. The development of Buddhism, from the earliest translations from Sanskrit to the central texts of the Chan school (which became Zen in Japan), is the subject of the third section of the book. Titled Later Daoism and Mahayana Buddhism in China, this part also covers the teachings of Wang Bi, Daoist religion, and texts of the major schools of Buddhist doctrine and practice. The final part, The Confucian Revival and Neo-Confucianism, details the revival of Confucian thought in the Tang, Song, and Ming periods, with historical documents that link philosophical thought to political, social, and educational developments in late imperial China. With annotations, a detailed chronology, glossary, and a new introduction by the editors, Sources of Chinese Tradition will continue to be a standard resource, guidebook, and introduction to Chinese civilization well into the twenty-first century.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This masterful compilation is the most comprehensive sourcebook of Chinese civilization ever published in a Western language." -- PLA, Appearing in University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries, "Journal of Chinese Religions"

Widely used and praised for almost forty years as an authoritative resource for scholars and students and as a thorough and engaging introduction for general readers, Sources of Chinese Tradition, Volume 1 has been dramatically updated to reflect recent scholarly developments, with extensive material on popular thought and religion, social roles, and women's education. This edition features new translations of more than half the works from the first edition, as well as many new selections.

This is a wonderful book with hard to find translations. If you want to deepen your understanding of China this is a great book.

Nice book!

De Bary and colleagues have compiled useful original documents to illustrate the major trends and traditions in China over the millennia

Bought this book for a course. Comprehensive - very detailed accounts of history and philosophy. The professor doesn't really "teach," so this book has been an invaluable resource.

I think the book is excellent and it is exactly what is meant for. However, the Chinese historical

sources are so far away from my mindset that I found it difficult and quite boring. Try first the second volume first (it is more meant for non-historians or non-philosophers). In case you love it you can try the first one.

I am a native Chinese and I am a political science major student in a relatively prestigious school. I have been knowing Chinese history for years, with living in China and study Chinese history in my high school. **HOWEVER**, this book is truly amazing and revealed many things and insights about my own cultural roots. A must read! Highly recommended!

the book content is great and detailed, yet it is not as new as I expected, still, I am really satisfied with the price and the quality!

Bought it for a college course and surprise (!) ended up reading it! It can be a bit dry of course, but its a pretty interesting read if you're into that kind of stuff. If you have no interest in history well then obviously this book is not for you. Also it is **HUGE**. I definitely did not read the entire textbook. At whatever price you are paying for this book, the price per page is less than a penny. It weighs about 5 pounds and is fatter than a two cheeeseburgers stacked on top of each other. Still, decent read, heavy, and if you can get it for under 10 dollars you are probably getting a good deal.

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