

## Day 2 - Understanding the present

### *Session 4: Perspectives on ambiguity*

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#### **Abstract**

These remarks use historical examples from several contexts to focus on perceptions that Chinese culture favors ambiguity and Western culture favors precision. They also give examples of models or systems that can produce misleading or false impressions of ambiguity. Nuancing notions of ambiguity can add to reflection and debate on alleged incommensurabilities between cultures, and further illustrate the dangers of essentializing traditions.