Seeing is believing: Exploring the Chinese Graphocentrism

Wednesday, 23 October 2013, 4 p.m.
Campus Walferdange, building 12, room INSIDE

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Compared with other languages that are using phonetic alphabets, Chinese is unique and distinctive for using characters. Chinese character is a monosyllabic word. The Chinese written and spoken language system is very different from the Western spelling phonetic system. In my view, Chinese is distinguished by graphocentrism which prioritises writing over speech. The French philosopher Derrida criticises that the Western tradition of metaphysics is haunted with the trilogy of phonocentrism, logocentrism and ethnocentrism. If the phonocentrism, which takes voice over writing, contributes to the problem of the Western philosophy, what can we find and expect from Chinese philosophy which is underpinned by graphocentrism?

In this presentation, Ruyu Hung will make the inquiry into Chinese philosophy with respect to the Chinese graphocentrism.

Organised by the Institute of Education & Society – History, Theory and Sociology of Education of the Research Unit LCMI. For further information, please contact gert.bieta@uni.lu