In the early eighth century Wu Jing compiled the sayings of Emperor Taizong and his ministers (620s-640s) and arranged them according to a hierarchy of topics that were deemed key to good government. The text has since then been used to educate emperors and elite men and has become a standard reference in East Asian political thought since the eighth century. This is the second in a series of workshops on the translation and uses of *The Essentials of Government*.

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