

## Ancient Philosophy (56)

Spring, 2004  
TTh. 12:30-1:45  
Caldwell 105

Teacher	Texts
Patrick Miller <a href="mailto:plmiller@email.unc.edu">plmiller@email.unc.edu</a> UNC Office: Caldwell 210A UNC Office Hours: TTh, 1:45-2:45 Duke Office: West Duke Bldg., 203C East Campus Duke Office Hours: 12:45-1:30	CCR = <i>Ancient Greek Philosophy: From Thales to Aristotle</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition ERES = Electronic Reserve GW = <i>Early Greek Political Thought from Homer to the Sophists</i> R = <i>The Trials of Socrates</i> IG = <i>Hellenistic Philosophy: Introductory Readings</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Warburton = <i>Thinking from A to Z</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Peters = <i>Greek Philosophical Terms</i>

Important Dates	Evaluation
1 <sup>st</sup> Quiz: Jan. 13 <sup>th</sup> Logic Assignment: Jan. 20 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quiz: Feb. 5 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Schema: Feb. 12 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Paper: Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup> Midterm Exam: Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Quiz: Apr. 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Schema: Apr. 8 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Paper: Apr. 22 <sup>nd</sup> Final Exam: Apr. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 12 noon	Quizzes (3) and Assignment.....15% Schemata (2).....10% Papers (2).....30% Midterm Exam .....15% Final Exam .....30%

This course offers an introduction to Greek Philosophy, from its origins in the Archaic period of Greece (6th century B.C.), through its flourishing in the Classical period (5th and 4th century B.C.), and ending with its denouement in the Hellenistic period (roughly the next five-hundred years). As a result, this course demands much reading, lest our survey become mere tourism. Moreover, these texts are often difficult, and at times even obscure. That said, they reward the efforts of the diligent.

More than half the semester is spent with the two main philosophers of the middle period: Plato and Aristotle. Needless to say, these two are among the great philosophers of any period; they both deserve the intense work we will invest in them. Of Plato's writings we will read the following: *Apology*, *Meno*, *Phaedo*, *Symposium*, *Republic*, *Seventh Letter*, and *Parmenides*; of Aristotle's, substantial excerpts from: *Categories*, *De Interpretatione*, *Posterior Analytics*, *Physics*, *Metaphysics*, *De Anima*, *Nicomachean Ethics*, *Politics*.

Before coming to Plato and Aristotle, we read fragments of all of the major pre-Socratic natural philosophers: Thales, Anaximander, Anaximenes, Pythagoras, Xenophanes, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Zeno, Melissus, Anaxagoras, Empedocles, Hippocrates, and Democritus. Since the course aims to introduce not only the Greek philosophies, but also the Greek philosophers, we will read some biographical testimonies about these thinkers from Diogenes Laertius and Plutarch.

We will then turn to some of the 5th century Sophists: Protagoras, Critias, Antiphon, Gorgias, and Thrasymachus. In order to enrich our understanding of the period, we also read a few para-philosophical texts of tragedy and history: Aeschylus, Euripides, Thucydides, and Herodotus. All of these thinkers make the transition to Socrates – who otherwise appears to come out of nowhere – more natural. In order to gain a fuller picture of this peculiar thinker, we will read not only Plato's account, but also those of Aristophanes and Xenophon.

After spending the bulk of our time with Socrates' student, Plato, and Plato's student, Aristotle, we will finish the course with an all-too-brief survey of Hellenistic philosophy, sampling texts of Stoicism, Epicureanism, and Skepticism. Regrettably, there will not be enough time to reach Neoplatonism, the last great pagan philosophy of antiquity; however, Neoplatonism can be read just as legitimately as a segue to medieval philosophy.

We will cover as many topics as this diverse group of thinkers covered themselves – which is to say nearly all the major topics of philosophy: change, causation, being, knowledge, language, goodness, justice, art, the soul, pleasure, fate, freedom, immortality, and the divine. In this way, our course can serve as an introduction to the subject of Philosophy itself: most of these topics are still debated, they are sometimes debated in terms set originally by the Greeks, and some of the answers they supplied are still seriously entertained.

εἰς δὲ θεῶν ἢ νοῦς πρὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον, καὶ ἢ κατὰ τὸν βίος θεῶς πρὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον βίον.

	<p>Thurs., Jan. 8<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Chronology Schools Geography Persia and Greece</p> <p>Knowledge as Tragedy Prometheus Daedalus Oedipus</p> <p>Knowledge as Salvation Sophocles' Ode to Man Hippocrates' Aph. #1 Plato's Cave Allegory</p> <p>Knowledge as Practice Pythagoreanism Academy Hellenistic Schools</p> <p>CCR: 1-7 GW: 43-46, 50-52</p>	<p>Tues., Jan. 13<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Milesians Thales Anaximander Anaximenes</p> <p>Xenophanes</p> <p>Diogenes Laertius <i>Life of Thales</i> (ERES)</p> <p>Warburton Terms: necessary and sufficient conditions consistency contradiction contraries counterexample conditional statements antecedent consequent iff</p> <p>Ockham's razor alternative explanations</p> <p>CCR: 8-14, 21-23 ERES: 12 pages ("Thales")</p> <p><b>Greek Alphabet Quiz</b></p>	<p>Thurs., Jan. 15<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Pythagoraeans Philolaus</p> <p>Heraclitus</p> <p>Diogenes Laertius <i>Life of Pythagoras</i> (ERES)</p> <p>assertion argument premise conclusion deduction validity sound argument affirming the antecedent denying the consequent</p> <p>CCR: 15-20, 24-34 ERES: 20 pages ("Pythagoras")</p>
<p>Tues., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Eleatics Parmenides Zeno</p> <p>Melissus</p> <p>denying the antecedent affirming the consequent equivocation <i>non sequitur</i> formal fallacy begging the question circular argument enthymeme assumption paradox</p> <p>CCR: 35-41, 59-63, 76-79</p> <p><b>Logic Assignment</b></p>	<p>Thurs., Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>Anaxagoras</p> <p>Physicians Empedocles Hippocrates <i>The Nature of Man</i> (ERES)</p> <p>Plutarch <i>Life of Pericles</i> (ERES)</p> <p><i>ad hoc</i> clauses correlation=cause confusion some/all confusion</p> <p>CCR: 42-58 ERES: 14 pages ("Pericles," "Nature of Man")</p>	<p>Tues., Jan. 27<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Atomists Leucippus Democritus</p> <p>Sophists Protagoras Antiphon Thrasymachus Critias "Dissoi Logoi"</p> <p>rhetoric sophistry biting the bullet emotive language persuader words <i>ad hominem</i> move <i>tu quoque</i> genetic fallacy</p> <p>CCR: 64-71, 80-81, 86-88 GW: 254-256, 260-262, 296-308 (GW ERES: "Concord," "Dissoi Logoi,"</p>	<p>Thurs., Jan 29<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Historians Herodotus Thucydides</p> <p>Sophists Gorgias</p> <p>Weston <i>Deductive Arguments</i> (ERES)</p> <p>CCR: 81-84 GW: 77-80, 82-85, 102-108, 118-125, 190-195 (GW ERES: "On Happiness," "Debate on Constitutions," "Encomium of Helen," "Plague," "Civil War in Corcyra," "Melian Dialogue") ERES: 12 pages ("Deductive Arguments")</p>

		Sisyphus,” “Truth” “Thrasymachus”)	
<p>Tues., Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup></p> <p>“Socrates”</p> <p>Aristophanes <i>Clouds</i> (217-516) (866-1115) (1304-end)</p> <p>Xenophon <i>Defense</i></p> <p>Plato <i>Apology</i></p> <p>R: 1-2, 26-61, 177-184, 84-87, 102-118, 140- 154, 165-176.</p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 5<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Meno</i></p> <p>analogy, arguments from disanalogy hypothesis dictionary definition stipulative definitions persuasive definition truth by adage rash generalisation Socratic fallacy family resemblance term false dichotomy black-and-white thinking</p> <p>CCR: 191-216</p> <p><b>Greek Terms Quiz</b></p>	<p>Tues., Feb. 10<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Phaedo</i></p> <p>devil’s advocate bad reasons fallacy ‘that’s a value judgment’ knock-down argument getting personal bad company fallacy</p> <p>CCR: 217-251</p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 12<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic 1</i></p> <p>Review GW: 254-256, “Thrasymachus” CCR: 263-291</p> <p><b>Plato Schema Due</b></p> <hr/> <p>for Valentine’s Day, read:</p> <p><i>Symposium</i></p> <p>CCR: 252-262</p>
<p>Tues., Feb. 17<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic 2-3</i></p> <p>Hesiod <i>Works and Days</i> (ERES)</p> <p>CCR: 292-350 ERES: 4 pages  (“Five Ages”)</p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 19<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic 4-5</i></p> <p>Euripides Antiphon</p> <p>CCR: 350-408 GW: 60-62, 248-249 (GW ERES: “Medea,” Hippolytus”)</p>	<p>Tues., Feb. 24<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic 6-7</i></p> <p>CCR: 409-460</p> <p><b>Plato Paper Due</b></p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 26<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic 8-9</i></p> <p>democratic fallacy truth by authority slippery slope argument domino effect shifting the goalposts</p> <p>Review: GW 82-85, “Debate on Constitutions” CCR: 461-509</p>

<p>Tues., Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Republic</i> 10</p> <p>CCR: 510-535</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 4<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>MIDTERM EXAM</b></p> <hr/> <p>SPRING BREAK</p> <p>For the beach, read:</p> <p>Plato's <i>Seventh Letter</i> ERES: 23 pages ("Complete Works – seventh letter")</p>	<p>Tues., Mar. 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Plato <i>Parmenides</i></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Categories</i> <i>De Interpretatione</i> <i>Topics</i></p> <p>vagueness ambiguity jargon pedantry</p> <p>CCR: 536-545, 577-594, 595-598, 605-607</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 18<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Prior Analytics</i> (ERES) <i>Posterior Analytics</i></p> <p>induction deduction</p> <p>CCR: 608-625 ERES: 25 pages ("Components of Categorical Propositions," "Prior Analytics – Introduction")</p>
<p>Tues., Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Physics</i></p> <p>CCR: 626-658</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 25<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Metaphysics</i></p> <p>CCR: 690-709</p>	<p>Tues., Mar. 30<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Metaphysics</i></p> <p>CCR: 709-740</p>	<p>Thurs., Apr. 1<sup>st</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>De Anima</i></p> <p>CCR: 741-763</p> <p><b>Aristotle Quiz</b></p>
<p>Tues., Apr. 6<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i></p> <p>Review: GW 77-80 CCR: 764-795</p>	<p>Thurs., Apr. 8<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i></p> <p>CCR: 799-813</p> <p><b>Aristotle Schema Due</b></p>	<p>Tues., Apr. 13<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Aristotle <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> <i>Politics</i></p> <p>CCR: 813-831 ERES: 14 pages ("Pleasure")</p>	<p>Thurs., Apr. 15<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Alexander and Hellenism</p> <p>Aristotle <i>De Interpretatione</i></p> <p>Stoicism</p> <p>CCR: 598-602 IG: 111-124: Logic 132-141: Physics 179-190: Fate 190-203: Ethics</p>

<p>Tues., Apr. 20<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Epicureanism</p> <p><i>IG</i>: 5-19: Logic, Physics 28-40: Ethics</p> <p>Skepticism</p> <p><i>IG</i>: 285-297: Pyrrho 362-373: God</p>	<p>Thurs., Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>Conclusion Review Evaluations</p> <p><b>Aristotle Paper Due</b></p>		

Comprehensive Final Exam: Thurs., Apr. 29<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon.