

PHIL 3000: Ancient Philosophy (Call #05-803)

Cecilia Herles, Ph.D.

Spring 2008

Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m., Peabody, Room 220

Prerequisites: PHIL 1000, PHIL 2200, PHIL 2400 or permission of department

Contact information:

Office Hours: By appointment

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Description:

This course is designed to provide students with a general introduction to Ancient Greek philosophy. This class will focus primarily on the works of Plato and Aristotle. Students will be expected to become familiar with these texts, and to think critically about them.

Required texts:

(1) *A Presocratics Reader*. Ed. Patricia Curd, Trans. Richard D. McKirahan. (Hackett, 1996).

(2) Plato. *Five Dialogues: Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Meno, Phaedo, 2nd Edition*. Trans. G.M.A. Grube. (Hackett, 2002).

(3) Plato. *Republic*. Trans. G.M.A. Grube. Rev. C.D.C. Reeve. (Hackett, 1992).

(4) Aristotle. *Introductory Readings*. Trans. Terence Irwin and Gail Fine. (Hackett, 1996).

Assignments and Grading:

Quiz (10%) This quiz will focus on the Presocratics. You will be required to bring a blue book to class for this quiz.

In accordance with the University policy, students will be graded according to this plus/minus scale:

100-94= A 89-86= B+ 82-80 =B- 75-73 =C 69-60= D
90-93=A- 85-83= B 79-76 =C+ 72-70 =C- 59 and below= F

Students who excel in this assignment will

- 1) Clearly explain the arguments
- 2) Demonstrate that they have a solid understanding of the material
- 3) Develop a critical analysis of the material

Exam (30%) This exam will focus on the works of Plato. You will be required to bring a blue book to class for this exam.

In accordance with the University policy, students will be graded according to this plus/minus scale:

100-94= A 89-86= B+ 82-80 =B- 75-73 =C 69-60= D
90-93=A- 85-83= B 79-76 =C+ 72-70 =C- 59 and below= F

Students who excel in this assignment will

- 1) Clearly explain the arguments
- 2) Demonstrate that they have a solid understanding of the material
- 3) Develop a critical analysis of the material

Class Participation (20%) Active participation in this course is essential. You should be ready for every class by preparing readings before class. This is a discussion-based class, and you should be prepared to comment on the day's readings in a meaningful way.

Students will be graded according to the previously listed plus/minus scale.

Students who excel in class participation will:

- 1) Demonstrate that they have read and thought about the material assigned for the class
- 2) Demonstrate that they listen to their peers and build upon their ideas
- 3) Develop questions or topics for discussion
- 4) Demonstrate that they can articulate and illustrate the concepts discussed in the readings.

Discussion Leader (10%) You will be required to lead the discussion on a discussion day. Depending on the number of students enrolled in this class, you may be required to work with another student. Be prepared to give a clear and concise presentation of the material and to facilitate the class discussion. You should be prepared to explain the material to the class and to generate discussion questions. Students will be graded in the previously listed plus/minus scale.

Students who excel in leading discussion will:

- 1) Demonstrate a solid understanding of the material
- 2) Clearly explain the material to the class
- 3) Generate questions or topics for class discussion
- 4) Develop a critical analysis of the material

Take home final exam (30%) You will be required to type this final and hand in a paper copy to me by the beginning of class on April 24th.

Students will be graded according to the previously listed plus/minus scale.

Students who excel in this assignment will

- 1) Clearly explain the arguments
- 2) Demonstrate that they have a solid understanding of the material
- 3) Develop a critical analysis of the material

Reading assignments are listed below. Completion of all assignments before class and regular attendance of class is required. Both of these factors will be part of your overall participation grade. The instructor reserves the right to give unannounced quizzes to count as part of the participation grade.

More than three absences may result in the lowering of a student's grade by one letter. The instructor also reserves the right, at her discretion, to withdraw administratively any student who accumulates more than five absences at any point during the semester.

Week one

Tuesday, 1/8, Introductions

Thursday, 1/10 Introduction from Presocratics Reader, PR, p. 1-8

Week two

Tuesday, 1/15 The Milesians, PR, p.9-16

Thursday, 1/17 Pythagoras, Xenophanes, and Heraclitus, PR, p.17-28 (Discussion day)

Week three

Tuesday, 1/22 Parmenides and Heraclitus, PR, p. 29-51 (Discussion day)

Thursday, 1/24 Leucippus, Democritus, and Melissus, PR, p. 79-88, p.89-92 (Discussion day)

Week four

Tuesday, 1/29 Sophists and review, PR, p. 97-107

Thursday, 1/31 **Quiz**

Week five

Tuesday, 2/5 Introduction and *Euthyphro*, 5 Dialogues, p. ix-x, p. 1-20

Thursday, 2/7, *Apology*, 5 Dialogues, p. 21-44 (Discussion day)

Week six

Tuesday, 2/12, TBA

Thursday, 2/14, *Phaedo*, 5 Dialogues, p. 93-126(ending at 88c) (Discussion day)

Week seven

Tuesday, 2/19, *Phaedo* cont., 5 Dialogues, p. 126-154(88d-118a) (Discussion day)

Thursday, 2/21, *Republic*, Intro and Book I, p. viii-xviii, p. 1-31

Week eight

Tuesday, 2/26 *Republic*, Book II, p. 32-59

Thursday, 2/28 *Republic*, Book III, p. 60-93 (Discussion day)

Week nine

Tuesday, 3/4, *Republic*, Book IV, p. 94-121

Thursday, 3/6, *Republic*, Book V, p.122-156 (Discussion day)

Week ten

Spring break from March 10th-March 14th

Week eleven

Tuesday, 3/18, *Republic*, Book VI and VII, p. 157-190 (ending at 519b)

Thursday, 3/20, Review

Week twelve

Tuesday, 3/25, **Exam**

Thursday, 3/27 Aristotle, Intro and *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book I, p. xi-xvii, p. 196-216

Week thirteen

Tuesday, 4/1, Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book II, p. 216-228 (Discussion day)

Thursday, 4/3, Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book III, p. 228-241 (Discussion day)

Week fourteen

Tuesday, 4/8, Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book V and VI, p. 241-256

Thursday, 4/10, Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book VIII and IX, p. 263-274 (Discussion day)

Week fifteen

Tuesday, 4/15, Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, Book X, p. 275-287 (Discussion day)

Thursday, 4/17, Aristotle, *Politics*, p. 288-296 Hand out final exam questions.

Week sixteen

Tuesday, 4/22, Aristotle, *Politics*, p. 296-318

Thursday, 4/24, Last day of class.

Course policies

1. This syllabus may be revised during the semester.
2. All students are expected to conform to the highest standards of academic honesty. Students should follow the University's Academic Honesty Policy explained at http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm
3. Makeup examinations will not be scheduled unless the student is able to provide compelling, verifiable reasons why I should allow one.
4. Disruptive or otherwise disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated (coming into class late, leaving class early, cell phone ringing, concentrating on non-course material, side conversations, etc.).