



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

PHI 120 History of Ancient Philosophy

Term: July 10 – August 4, 2017

Instructor: Jacob Klein

Home Institution: Colgate University

Email: jklein@fastmail.com

Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

Office Hours: To be determined

Teaching Assistant: TBD

Email: TBD

Discussion session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours (45 minutes each, 48 hours in total)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description

This course surveys some of the central figures and ideas of classical Greek and Roman philosophy, with particular emphasis on Plato, Aristotle and the main Hellenistic schools. It is intended to provide students with a broad understanding of the ancient foundations of Western philosophical thought and acquaint them with the contributions of specific thinkers and schools. Topics to be considered include the aim and method of Socratic inquiry; Plato's epistemology, theory of Forms and defense of justice; Aristotle's natural philosophy and ethical theory; Stoic and Epicurean cosmology and ethics. All of the texts to be covered have profoundly influenced the development of Western thought, and many of them also constitute literature of the highest order.

Course Goals

The expectation is that students will finish this class with an understanding of some of the central philosophical problems with which ancient philosophers wrestled, and will have an appreciation for the interest and continued relevance of those problems today. Ideally, students will see how central concepts and themes are passed on, develop, and grow throughout ancient philosophical history.

Required Texts

Grube, G.M.A. (tr.) (2002). *Plato: Five Dialogues* (Indianapolis: Hackett)

Grube, G.M.A., et al. (trs.) (1992). *Plato : Republic* (Indianapolis: Hackett)

Irwin, T, and Fine, G. (trs.) (1995). *Aristotle: Selections* (Indianapolis: Hackett)

Long, A.A., and David S., (trs.) (1987). *The Hellenistic Philosophers*, Vol. 1 (Cambridge, CUP)

Shields, C. (2012). *Ancient Philosophy: A Contemporary Introduction* (New York: Routledge)

Required course materials

No course materials are required beyond the required texts.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for all course lectures.

Grading Policy

Grading will be determined by a combination of class attendance and participation, tests at the beginning of some lectures (roughly 1 per week), and the results of your midterm and final exams.

✧ Attendance and Participation	20%
✧ Tests (Cumulative)	20%
✧ Exam 1	30%
✧ Exam 2	30%

Course Hours

The course has 20 class sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length for a total of 2,400 minutes of class time. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

Grading Policy

Assignments and examinations will be graded according to the following grade scale:

- A 90-100
- A- 85-89
- B+ 82-84
- B 78-81
- B- 75-77
- C+ 72-74
- C 68-71
- C- 64-67
- D 60-63
- F below 60

Class Rules

Students are expected to come to lectures having read the material assigned for the day, and to be prepared to engage in active discussion about that material. Philosophy is an inherently dialogical enterprise; we only progress in philosophy through active exchange of ideas and arguments. Computers may be used ONLY for taking notes. Cell phones must be turned off in class.

Course Schedule

Unit 1: Socrates and the Socratic Method

7.10 *The Socratic Elenchus*

Shields, 2.1-2.2; Plato, *Euthyphro*

7.11 *Socratic Ignorance and Knowledge*

Shields, 2.3; Plato, *Meno*

7.12 *The Socratic Paradoxes*

Shields, 2.4; Plato, *Meno* (cont.)

7.13 *Socrates on Trial and in Prison*

Shields, 2.5; Plato, *Apology*
7.14 *Socratic Lessons*
Shields 2.6, Plato, *Crito* **First Test**

Unit 2: Plato and the Theory of Forms

7.17 *Plato's Positive Methods*
Shields, 3.1-3.2; Plato, *Phaedo*
7.18 *The Theory of Forms*
Shields, 3.3-3.6; Plato, *Phaedo* (cont.)
7.19 *Virtue and Happiness*
Shields, 3.7; Plato, *Republic* 1-2 (selections TBA)
7.20 *Knowledge and The Form of the Good*
Shields, 3.8-3.11; Plato, *Republic* 3-6 and 10 (selections TBA); **Second Test**
7.21 **Midterm Exam**

Unit 3: Aristotle on Form, Matter, and Teleology

7.24 *Aristotle's Categories*
Shields, 4.1-4.2; Irwin and Fine, 1-12
7.25 *The Four Causes*
Shields, 4.3-4.4; Irwin and Fine, 102-05
7.26 *Aristotle on the Soul*
Shields, 4.5-4.6; Irwin and Fine, 176-87
7.27 *Aristotle on Virtue and Happiness*
Shields, 4.7; Irwin and Fine, 347-65
7.28 *Lessons from Aristotle*
Shields, 4.7-4.9; Irwin and Fine, 366-74; **Third Test**

Unit 4: Stoics, Epicureans, and Skeptics

7.31 Epicurean Atomism and Ethics
Shields, 5.1-5.2; Long and Sedley, 37-43, 112-124
8.1 Stoic Corporealism
Shields, 5.3; Long and Sedley, 272-289
8.2 Stoic Ethics
Long and Sedley, 394-400
8.3 Ancient Skepticism
Shields, 5.4-5.5; Long and Sedley 438-49; **Fourth Test**
8.4 **Final Exam**