Philosophy 4110: Ancient Greek Philosophy
Provisional Syllabus—Fall 2016

Class Time and Location: M, W, F 11:50 AM - 12:40 PM, WBB 206
Instructor: Eric Hutton
Office: CTIH 425 Office Hours: Wed 3:00-4:00pm or by appointment
Phone: 801-581-7320 E-mail: eric.hutton@utah.edu
Course website: Canvas

Course Description: Studying Greek philosophy is helpful not only for learning about the history of Western thought, but it also provides a good introduction to philosophy generally. For the Greeks investigated most of the major areas of philosophical inquiry, including ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology, and many of the questions that they addressed are still being debated today. This course will thus cover a broad spectrum of issues as we trace the development of Greek philosophy from the pre-Socratics through the Hellenistic thinkers. Readings will consist entirely of primary sources in translation. No previous knowledge of classical Greek or of Greek history is required. See below for details of course assignments.

Pre-requisite: None, but prior courses in philosophy are highly recommended.

Course Objectives:

1. To improve students’ skills in critical reading, writing, and thinking through engagement with philosophical texts and through focused writing exercises. In particular, students will practice:
   A) Writing concisely
   B) Reconstructing arguments and noting premises (assumptions) and conclusions
   C) Constructing interpretations of passages
   D) Constructing and responding to evaluative arguments

2. To give students familiarity with the basic figures and themes of ancient Greek philosophy.

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts:


All other readings will be on reserve (and when possible, e-reserve) at Marriott Library

(Note: The instructor will strive to follow diligently the schedule and plan set out in this syllabus, but this syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor at any time, and students will be given reasonable prior notice of any modifications. If/when such modifications are made, a new version of the syllabus will be posted on the course website and will be authoritative over all previous versions of the syllabus.)

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

Week 1: Introduction & Pre-Socratics

8/22 (Mon): Introduction
8/24 (Wed): Pre-Socratics I: selections from Heraclitus (on e-reserve)
8/26 (Fri): Pre-Socratics II: selections from Parmenides (on e-reserve)

Week 2: Socrates

8/29 (Mon): Socratic Psychology: Plato, *Apology* (all); *Protagoras*, 351B-358E
8/30 (Tue): **Argument Outline #1 Due at 9:00pm.**
9/2 (Fri): Discussion

Week 3: Socrates/Plato

9/5 (Mon): **Labor Day: No Class**
9/6 (Tue): **Argument Outline #2 Due at 9:00pm.**
9/7 (Wed): The Question of Knowledge I: Plato, *Theaetetus* (all, but esp. 142A-183C)
9/9 (Fri): The Question of Knowledge II: Plato, *Theaetetus* (all, but esp. 183D-210D)

Week 4: Plato

9/12 (Mon): Platonic Metaphysics: Plato, *Phaedo* (all, but esp. 72E-77B, 96A-107A)
9/13 (Tue): **Argument Outline #3 Due at 9:00pm.**
9/14 (Wed): The Doctrine of Recollection: Plato, *Phaedo* (all, but esp. 72E-77B), *Meno* 81A-86C
9/16 (Fri): Discussion

Week 5: Plato
9/20 (Tue): **Argument Outline #4 Due at 9:00pm.**
9/21 (Wed): Platonic Psychology: Plato, *Republic*, Bk. IV; Bk. IX, 588B-592B
9/23 (Fri): Discussion

**Week 6: Plato**

9/26 (Mon): Philosophers and Non-philosophers: *Republic*, Bk. V
9/28 (Wed): Interlude: Plato, *Symposium* (all)
9/30 (Fri): Discussion

**Week 7: Plato**

10/3 (Mon): Sun, Line, and Cave: Plato, *Republic*, Bk. VI-VII (esp. 504B-541B)
10/5 (Wed): Problems for the Forms in Late Plato: Plato, *Parmenides* 126A-135D
10/7 (Fri): Discussion

**Week 8: Fall Break**

10/10 – 10/14: **Fall Break—No Class**

**Week 9: Aristotle**

10/17 (Mon): Aristotelian Science: Aristotle, *Physics* II
10/20 (Thu): **Paper #1 Due at 5:00pm.**
10/21 (Fri): Discussion

**Week 10: Aristotle**

10/24 (Mon): Aristotelian Psychology: Aristotle, *De Anima* II (esp. 1-5)
10/25 (Tue): **Optional Argument Outline #5 Due at 9:00pm.**

**Week 11: Aristotle**

10/31 (Mon): Aristotelian Moral Virtue: *Nicomachean Ethics* II
11/2 (Wed): Aristotelian Moral Virtue (continued): *Nicomachean Ethics* II; III.5 (1115a3) – III.12
11/4 (Fri): Discussion

**Week 12: Aristotle**

11/7 (Mon): Aristotelian Intellectual Virtue: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* VI
11/8 (Tue): Please go vote in the election! Optional Argument Outline #6 Due at 9:00pm.
11/9 (Wed): Happiness Revisited: Nicomachean Ethics X.4-9, Metaphysics XII.6-10
11/10 (Thu): Optional Rewrite of Paper #1 Due at 5:00pm.
11/11 (Fri): Discussion

Week 13: Epicureanism

11/15 (Tue): Optional Argument Outline #7 Due at 9:00pm.
11/16 (Wed): Epicurean Ethics II: selections from Lucretius (on e-reserve)
11/17 (Thu): Paper #2 Due at 5:00pm.
11/18 (Fri): Discussion

Week 14: Stoicism

11/25 (Fri): Thanksgiving Break. No class.

Week 15: Skepticism

11/28 (Mon): Discussion
12/2 (Fri): The Modes of Skepticism: IG, III-35 – III-37, III-48 – III-51

Week 16: Conclusion

12/5 (Mon): Discussion
12/7 (Wed): Conclusion & Review

12/13 (Tue): Paper #3 Due at 5:00pm

Course Requirements:

A) Students are expected to finish each assigned reading before the class meeting on that assignment. Students are also expected to bring the assigned reading to class with them.

B) Argument Outlines: Students are required to submit four argument outlines for passages from the reading that will be assigned by the instructor. An additional three outline assignments will be optional, and the highest four submissions will counted toward the course grade. No late assignments will be accepted. The dates on which outlines are to be submitted are marked on the schedule above.
C) Participation: students are expected to participate in discussion in class. For in-class discussion, raising thoughtful questions, responding insightfully to remarks by other students, answering questions from the instructor, and reading aloud (when asked by the instructor) will all count towards fulfilling this requirement. Students who are absent from class are still responsible for knowing what was said both during lecture and discussion, so if you miss class, be sure to get notes from a classmate.

D) Papers: three papers of 1200-1800 words, due by 5 p.m. on the days designated above. Topics will be handed out in advance. Further details on manner of submission, penalties for lateness, extensions, drafts, etc. will be given with paper topics.

Grading:

Participation in discussions, 20%; Argument outlines, 20%; Papers, 20% each.

(The instructor reserves the right to change this weighting as necessary in order to fulfill the educational mission of the course.)

The grading scale to be used in this course severely penalizes failure to submit an assignment, so students who utterly fail to submit assignments will jeopardize their overall course grade to a much greater extent than students who submit assignments that are of poor quality.

Note: All assignments submitted for a grade in this course must be the student’s own work. Plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct may result in a failing grade for the entire course, and the case may be transferred to the University’s Academic Misconduct Committee for further judgment. According to the Student code, “‘Plagiarism’ means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one’s own work offered for academic consideration or credit for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one’s own, without attribution, any individual’s words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression” (http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html). If you have further questions about what constitutes plagiarism or academic misconduct, ask the instructor and consult the University Code.

College of Humanities Academic Misconduct Policy:

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct, misrepresenting one’s work, and inappropriately collaborating. Definitions can be found in the Student Code at http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html.

If you are suspected of academic misconduct, the process proceeds according to the rules found in the Student Code, University Policy 6-400(V). According to that policy, after meeting with you, the instructor must determine whether academic misconduct has, in fact, occurred.

—If s/he determines that no academic misconduct has occurred, s/he will document that you are not responsible for any academic misconduct.
—If s/he determines academic misconduct has occurred and this is the first instance in which you have been alleged to have committed academic misconduct, s/he will take into account whether the act was intentional or a result of negligence in determining the appropriate sanction, which can be up to failing the course. The sanction will be noted in the resolution of the case and your right of appeal is as specified in Policy 6-400(V).

—If s/he determines academic misconduct has occurred, and you have previously been sanctioned for an act of academic misconduct, and the prior instance of misconduct resulted in a sanction less than failing the course, the department will follow the process to fail you for the course. If the prior sanction was failure of the course, your new act of misconduct will result in failure of the course and the department will also follow the process to seek your dismissal from the program and the University.

ADA Statement:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

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