Fall 2017

Ancient Greek Philosophy

Philosophy 325—2

Class Time: 11:00am—12:15pm

Monday, Wednesday

CCC 126

**Instructor:**

Charles Joshua Horn, Ph.D.

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Office Location: CCC 418

Office Phone: (715) 346-2849

Office Hours: MW, 1:00pm—2:00pm

**Course Description:**

This course surveys the development of Western philosophy from its earliest origins in Greece through the major movements of Hellenistic and Roman philosophy. Something that all the major ancient philosophers share is an overarching concern for how to live a good life, that is, a life that is truly happy and fulfilled. They also share the conviction that in order to answer the question of how one ought to live, one must understand the nature of reality. In this course, therefore, we will study the texts of the ancient philosophers with the following questions in mind. What is the proper way to live in order to be truly happy? What are the objects of knowledge? How is the nature of reality related to the way we should live?

**Text:**

Rental:

1. *Plato: The Complete Works*

Hackett

ISBN: 0872203492

1. *The Basic Works of Aristotle*

Modern Library

ISBN: 0375757996

Purchase

1. *The Essential Epicurus: Letters, Principal Doctrines, Vatican Sayings, and Fragments*

Prometheus

0879758104

1. *Enchiridion*

Dover

0486433595

**Course Goals:**

By carefully examining the foundations of western philosophical thought related to the nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics, students will gain a better understanding of themselves and their role in the world. Students will also develop critical thinking, written, and oral communication skills. By the end of the semester, students will have a better understanding of what it means to be a responsible and self-reflective global citizen.

**Expectations:**

Students are expected to attend every class and remain for the entire time. Do not come late or leave early. Students must complete the necessary readings prior to class and be prepared for discussion and participation. Students will treat other students with respect. Students must turn off all electrical equipment, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and voice recorders. Students must also address their peers in a respectful tone. It is important to note that the nature of this class will inevitably result in disagreements among colleagues; however, it is essential to maintain respect toward one another despite disagreement.

Additionally, this course will utilize the Desire2Learn online system to facilitate certain aspects of the class. It is required that you check in with D2L regularly to find class updates, submit work, check grades, etc.

**Grading Criteria:**

Final grades will be calculated based upon the following. Late work will never be accepted unless an extension has been granted by Dr. Horn prior to the due date. Extensions will only be granted in extreme circumstances.

* 1. Three In-Class Exams: 75% Total (25% Each)
     1. Exams will be short-answer and cover the material for the given unit.
  2. One Essay: 25% Total (25% Each)
     1. There will be one 3-5 page essay due on December 15, 2017. The assignment must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 11:59pm. More details will be provided on a separate prompt.

Students will be permitted four unexcused absences. Any absence after four will result in a 5% deduction from the overall grade. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class, so if students are late, they will not be counted present for the day.

\*Grading will be anonymous when possible and will follow this scale:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A Range**  **(90—100%)** | **B Range**  **(80—89%)** | **C Range**  **(70—79%)** | **D Range**  **(64—69%)** | **F Range**  **(0—63%)** |
|  | B+ (87—89) | C+ (77—79) | D+ (67—69) | F (<63) |
| A (94—100) | B (84—86) | C (74—76) | D (64—66) |  |
| A- (90—93) | B- (80—83) | C- (70—73) |  |  |

**Academic Integrity:**

Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism or helping others to commit these acts will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in severe disciplinary action including, but not limited to, failure of the student assessment item or course, and/or dismissal from the University. Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

**Disability Information:**

Students with disabilities should register with the ADA coordinator on campus and let me know at the beginning of the semester. I would be happy to accommodate you in any way that I can. Just let me know. More information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf>

**Course Schedule:**

September 6 Syllabus/Course Introduction

**Unit I: Plato**

September 11 Plato, Introductory Lecture

September 13 Plato, “Apology” (17a-42a)

September 18 Plato, Phaedo (57a-70b)

September 20 Plato, Phaedo (70c-94e)

September 25 Plato, Phaedo (102b-118a)

September 27 Plato, Republic II, III (357a-362a; 368c-376d; 412a-417b)

October 2 Plato, Republic IV, IX (433a-445b; 580d-583c)

October 4 Plato, Republic V, VI, VII (473d-480a; 504a-511e; 514a-517c)

October 9 Plato, Symposium (172a-201c)

October 11 Plato, Symposium (201d-223d)

October 16 Review

October 18 Exam I

**Unit II: Aristotle**

October 23 Aristotle, Introductory Lecture

October 25 Aristotle, Categories 1-5 (1a1-4b15)

October 30 Physics I.7; II. 1-3, 7-9; IV. 10-14 (189b30-191a20; 192b10-195b30, 198a15-200b10; 217b30-224a15)

November 1 Aristotle, Metaphysics VII.1-6, 13-17, XII.6-10 (1028a-1032a10, 1038b1-1041b30; 1069a20-1072a15)

November 6 Aristotle, De Anima II (412a-1-424b15)

November 8 Aristotle, De Anima III (424b20-435b25)

November 13 Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics I, II (1094a1-1109b25)

November 15 Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics VIII, X (1155a1-1163b25); (1172a20-1181b20)

November 20 Review

November 22 Exam II

**Unit III: Epicurus and Stoicism**

November 27 Epicurus, Principal Doctrines; Letter to Herodotus; Letter to Menoeceus

November 29 Epictetus, Enchiridion

December 4 Epictetus, Enchiridion

December 6 Review

December 11 Exam III

December 13 Course Evaluations

By the way, if you find that this class speaks to you and are interested in adding Philosophy as a major or minor, then please come and talk to me in my office. Studying philosophy is one *excellent* way to prepare for graduate school or law school and, when paired with another major or minor, has a tendency to significantly increase performance in other classes too.