

PHL 200: Ancient Philosophy

Instructor: Dr. Owen Pikkert, owen.pikkert@mail.utoronto.ca

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 to 2:00

Instructor's office hours: Thursdays 3:30 to 5:00 in NE 6144

Course description

This course is an introduction to ancient philosophy, particularly to the views of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and Epicurus. Topics to be discussed include issues in metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, and other areas of philosophy as well.

Logistics

Evaluation: Three quizzes at 10% each (on Oct 4, Nov 6, and Nov 29), two papers at 20% each (due on Oct 19 and Dec 5), a final exam at 20% (date determined by registrar for Apr), and tutorial participation at 10%.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be taken in class. Only material from the lectures will be quizzed.

Papers: Topics and instructions for the papers will be posted to Quercus at least three weeks in advance of the deadline. Papers are to be submitted online via Quercus, which incorporates Turnitin.com. Late papers will be penalized at 5% for each calendar day, and papers more than one week late will not be accepted. Instructions on how to request an extension are available [here](#).

Readings: The readings for Socrates and Plato are found in *A Plato Reader*, edited by C. D. C. Reeve (Hackett, 2012). This volume is available in the bookstore. The readings for Aristotle and Epicurus are available via Quercus.

Turnitin.com: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Academic integrity

By university regulation, plagiarism will automatically be reported to the Dean. Plagiarism is presenting someone else's ideas or words as if they are your own. You may use ideas and

examples that come from others, but you must make clear that you are doing so. It is acceptable to quote, but when you do so, you must clearly provide a citation to the relevant work.

It is important to know that there are various forms of academic offense besides plagiarism. For more information please see [here](#). This site can help you get clear about what counts as an academic offense, how to prevent it, and the university's policies for dealing with suspected cases. Even if you plagiarize unintentionally, it still counts as an academic offense.

Lecture schedule

Sep 6		Introduction	
Sep 11	Socrates	Courage	<i>Laches</i>
Sep 13	Socrates	Piety and the gods	<i>Euthyphro</i>
Sep 18	Socrates	The trial of Socrates	<i>Apology</i>
Sep 20	Plato	The theory of recollection	<i>Meno</i>
Sep 25	Plato	Defining "justice"	<i>Republic I</i>
Sep 27	Plato	Two types of societies	<i>Republic II</i>
Oct 2	Plato	The noble lie	<i>Republic III 412a – IV 427d</i>
Oct 4	Plato	Parts of the soul	<i>Republic IV 427e-445e</i>
Oct 9		Reading week	
Oct 11		Reading week	
Oct 16	Plato	The Forms	<i>Republic V 471c-480a</i>
Oct 18	Plato	The sun and the cave	<i>Republic VI 502c-509c, VII 514a-521c</i>
Oct 23	Plato	Love and beauty	<i>Phaedrus 227a-257b</i>
Oct 25	Plato	Objections to the Forms	<i>Parmenides 126a-137b</i>
Oct 30	Aristotle	The four causes	<i>Physics I.1-2, I.5-9, II.1-3, III.1-3</i>
Nov 1	Aristotle	The ten categories	<i>Categories 1-5</i>
Nov 6	Aristotle	Hylomorphic compounds	<i>Metaphysics VIII</i>
Nov 8	Aristotle	Time and movement	<i>Metaphysics 12.6-8</i>
Nov 13	Aristotle	The unmoved mover	<i>Metaphysics 12.6-8</i>
Nov 15	Aristotle	Function and flourishing	<i>Nicomachean Ethics I.1-8, 13</i>
Nov 20	Aristotle	Moral virtues	<i>Nicomachean Ethics II.1-7, 9</i>
Nov 22	Aristotle	Happiness	<i>Nicomachean Ethics X</i>
Nov 27	Epicurus	Atomism	<i>Letter to Herodotus</i>
Nov 29	Epicurus	Hedonism	<i>Letter to Menoecus</i>
Dec 4	Epicurus	Fearing gods and death	<i>Letter to Menoecus</i>