

Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Huron University College
Philosophy 2200F (550): Ancient Philosophy
Course Outline Fall 2017



Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Dr. Julie Ponesse

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Office hours: Wednesdays, 10-12 p.m.

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Class times: W 12:30-1:30 p.m.

F 12:30-2:30 a.m.

Class location: HC-W12

Course content: OWLSakai

Course Description and Learning Objectives

The primary objective of this course is to acquaint students with the main thinkers, ideas, and developments in Ancient Greek philosophy, and to understand these developments in their historical contexts. The course also aims to instill an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the Ancient Greek philosophical tradition, and to help students develop the ability to read, understand, and analyze the texts inherited from this tradition so as to reflect on the ideas they offer us.

This course will introduce students to a broad selection of writings of the greatest thinkers of Classical antiquity (585 BC–529 AD)—Thales, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Zeno, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus and others. We will examine their views about knowledge, the forms, the soul, death, justice, virtue, happiness and the human good, as well as the nature of the cosmos, atomism, and the possibility of change and motion. We will trace the origins of some of the key philosophical themes that emerged during the Presocratic period, and proceed to examine their development and transformation at the hands of Plato and Aristotle. We will then see how philosophy changed (and stayed the same) in the hands of the Epicureans and the Stoics during the Hellenistic period.

This course aims to help students to understand and evaluate the arguments of these philosophers, and to connect them with questions raised by thinkers in other historical periods including our own. By the end of the course, students should be able to identify and explain how these ancient thinkers planted the seeds for many of our contemporary advancements in science, mathematics, aesthetics, psychology, politics and ethics. Students will also be able to identify key cultural and historical events which influenced the philosophy of the period.

Class Methods

The course will be delivered by lecture with a substantial amount of time left for student contribution. Students are expected to attend, and to actively participate, in both lectures and their tutorial sessions. *Students who actively participate in class may receive a bonus of up to 5% added to their final grade.*

Course Text (required)

S. M. Cohen, P. Curd, and C.D.C. Reeve, eds. *Readings in Ancient Greek Philosophy: from Thales to Aristotle*, 4th ed. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 2011.

I strongly encourage you to purchase this particular edition of the text but, if you choose to use other sources for the ancient material, be sure that the source has line numbers (i.e. the numbers in the margins) in addition to page numbers, otherwise it will be very difficult to follow along.

(Available at the UWO Bookstore [\$77.15] and on-line.)

Method of Evaluation

1. Three in-class tests - 10% each (total: 30%)
2. One incremental essay assignment - 35%
4. Final exam - 35%, to be scheduled at a time and place during the final exam period, as determined by the registrar

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING LIST

(subject to change given sufficient prior notice)

Readings are indicated according to their page numbers in the course text (abbreviated CCR). For the Plato readings, “Stephanus numbers” (numbers in the margins of the Plato readings) are also given (e.g. 596a). For the Aristotle readings, “Bekker numbers” (numbers in the margins of the Aristotle readings) are also given (e.g. 1094a1). These help you to find specific pages in the text and will be explained in class.

	SECTION I: PRESOCRATICS & THE BIRTH OF PHILOSOPHY
Class #1 (Sept. 8)	Introduction: From Mythology to Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hesiod, <i>Theogony</i> (CCR 2; provided in class)
Class #2 (Sept. 13)	The Presocratics 1: Material Monism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Milesians (CCR 10-17)
Class #3 (Sept. 15)	The Presocratics 2: Fluxism and Extreme Monism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heraclitus (CCR 29-35) • Parmenides (CCR 40-44) & Zeno (CCR 47-51)
Class #4 (Sept. 20)	The Presocratics 3: Pluralism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empedocles (CCR 52-53, 59-64, 69-71) & Anaxagoras (75-80)
(Sept. 22)	<i>No class</i>
Class #5 (Sept. 27)	The Presocratics 5: Atomism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atomism: Democritus (CCR 81-89)
Class #6 (Sept. 29)	Test #1: The Presocratics
	SECTION II: SOCRATES & THE SOCRATIC PROBLEM
Class #7 (Oct. 4)	The Socratic Problem Socrates' trial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Apology</i> 17a-35d (CCR 153-172)
Class #8 (Oct. 6)	The Socratic Problem Socrates' conviction and attitude towards death <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Apology</i> 35e-42a (CCR 172-178) & <i>Phaedo</i> 63c-68d; 114d-118a (CCR 272-277, 316-319) • <i>Incremental Essay Assignment distributed</i>
October 9-13	<i>Fall reading week; no classes</i>
	SECTION III: PLATO

Class #9 (Oct. 18)	Plato's Psychology: Forms, Souls, and Virtue Immortality and the Forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Phaedo</i> 57a-61c; 72a-82e (CCR 267-270, 280-290)
Class #10 (Oct. 20)	Plato's Epistemology: Recollection & Philosophical Inquiry Meno's Paradox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Meno</i> (selections from CCR 241-255) • <i>Incremental Essay Assignment Part 1 DUE</i>
Class #11 (Oct. 25)	Plato's Epistemology cont.'d The sun, the line, and the cave <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Republic</i> 507a-511e (CCR 536-541); 514c-518d (CCR 542-547)
Class #12 (Oct. 27)	Justice: How is the soul like a city? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Republic</i> 432e-445e (CCR 469-482)
Class #13 (Nov. 1)	Plato's Critique of the Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Republic</i> X 595a-608b (CCR 616-629)
Class #14 (Nov. 3)	<i>Incremental Essay Assignment Part 1 RETURNED</i> <i>Essay-writing 'tutorial'; no readings</i>
Class #15 (Nov. 8)	Plato's View of Love, Beauty, and the Form of the Good <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato, <i>Symposium</i> 189a-194e; 198a-219d (CCR 335-337, 347-357)
Class #16 (Nov. 10)	Test #2: Socrates and Plato
	SECTION IV: ARISTOTLE
Class #17 (Nov. 10)	Aristotle's Ethics: The Highest Good and the Human Function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> I. 1-8 (CCR 870-880)
Class #18 (Nov. 15)	Aristotle's Ethics: Doctrine of the Mean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> II.1-2; II.6 (CCR 883-885, 888-890)
Class #19 (Nov. 17)	Aristotle's Natural Philosophy: The Four Causes and teleology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aristotle, <i>Physics</i> II.1-3, 7-9 (CCR 740-747, 753-754)

Class #20 (Nov. 22)	Aristotle's Politics The depiction of women as failed/mutilated men <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read <i>Politics</i> I.12-13; <i>Generation of Animals</i> IV.1-2 (Owl)
Class #21 (Nov. 24)	Aristotle's Politics Why women and natural slaves are excluded from the life of happiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read <i>Politics</i> I.1-7 and I.13 (Owl)
Class #22 (Nov. 29)	Aristotle's Psychology: Lives & Souls Aristotle's definition of the soul and the functions of life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read Aristotle, <i>On the Soul</i> I.1, II.1-4 (CCR 847-850, 851-859)
Class #23 (Dec. 1)	Test #3: Aristotle
Class #24 (Dec. 6)	Aristotle's Psychology: Lives & Souls cont.'d <i>Final Essay Due by Monday, December 4 at midnight (by electronic submission to Owl)</i>
Class #25 (Dec. 8)	<i>Exam preparation session</i> <i>(N.B. Review notes will not be given.)</i>

Late penalty policy:

Late papers will be subject to a 5% penalty on the first day that it is late, and a further 1% penalty for each subsequent day it is late (including each day of the weekend) until the last day of the semester, at which point a grade of 0 will be automatically entered (following Senate guidelines set out on p. 117 of the UWO 2015-16 Academic Calendar).

For medical accommodation please see the relevant policy in the appendix.

Appendix to Course Outlines

Prerequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Provost and Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/StudentDiscipline>

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

- (a) **Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf, requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform_15JUN.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(b) Accommodation on Medical Grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly

When seeking accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(c) Non-medical Grounds: Consult Instructor Directly

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical, the student should contact the instructor directly. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor. Apart from the exception noted below, academic advisors will not be involved in the process of accommodation for non-medical reasons.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student’s request is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student’s ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as

quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Statement on Academic Integrity

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Provost and Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Provost and Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Provost and Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo> ("Class Cancellations").

Mental Health @ Western

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Academic Advising

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation [see above], students should contact an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services (hurousss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>

Department Chairs and Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about their individual programs. Their contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/Academics/FacultyofArtsandSocialScience>