Philosophy 212/AMNE 236: Greek Philosophy II

Winter Term 2 2023-4
MWF 1-2pm, MATH

Professor Sylvia Berryman
sylvia.berryman@ubc.ca
OH MF 12-1, BUCH E-269 and by appt

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The philosophers of ancient Greece continue to fascinate and inspire us today. This course continues from part one, introducing students to the ideas of Aristotle and the Hellenistic philosophical schools. The puzzles and problems these philosophers raise are not merely of historical interest, but will be approached as real philosophical questions. Are there any objective truths or values? How can we have knowledge? Is there purpose in nature? How should we live in the world?

**Texts:**
Irwin and Fine, *Aristotle: Selections*
Inwood and Gerson, *Hellenistic Philosophy: Introductory Readings*

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<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td><strong>Week One, Jan 8/10/12</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Arguments against the Forms</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>On Ideas</em> 80.8-83.33</td>
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<td><strong>Week Two, Jan 15/17/19</strong>&lt;br&gt;The problem of change: matter, form and privation&lt;br&gt;Aristotle’s Four Kinds of Explanation</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>Physics</em> 2.3-4, 2.7-9</td>
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<td><strong>Week Three, Jan 22/24/26</strong>&lt;br&gt;Is the Future Settled?&lt;br&gt;Is Time Real?&lt;br&gt;First paper drafts due 4pm, Thursday Jan 25th</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>De Interpretatione</em> 9&lt;br&gt;<em>Physics</em> 4.9-12</td>
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<td><strong>Week Four, Jan 29/31/Feb 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Natural vs. Nonnatural Motion&lt;br&gt;The Unmoved Mover&lt;br&gt;First paper due Thursday Feb 1st</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>Physics Bk</em> 8.1-6&lt;br&gt;<em>Metaphysics</em> 12</td>
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<td><strong>Week Five, Feb 5/7/9</strong>&lt;br&gt;Form and function in organisms&lt;br&gt;Human flourishing and Contemplation</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>Nic. Ethics</em> Books 1, 10.4-8</td>
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<td><strong>Week Six, Feb 12/14/16th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Political Animals&lt;br&gt;Midterm in class Friday Feb 16th</td>
<td>Aristotle <em>Politics</em> Book 1&amp;2</td>
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<td><strong>Reading Week, Feb 19-23</strong></td>
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**Week Seven**, Feb 26/28, Mar 1
*Hellenistic Philosophy* pp. 5-19, 28-31
Atomism as a cure for fear
The ‘fourfold cure’

**Week Eight**, Mar 4/6/8
*Hellenistic Philosophy* pp. 141-61, 182-190
Stoic physical theory
Divine purpose in everything

**Week Nine**, Mar 11/13/15
*Hellenistic Philosophy* pp. 203-232
Living according to Reason and Nature
Freedom from passion
Second paper drafts due 4pm, Thurs Mar 14th

**Week Ten**, Mar 18/20/22
*Hellenistic Philosophy* pp. 302-308
Scepticism as a Route to Tranquillity
Second paper due Thursday Mar 21st

**Week Eleven**, Mar 25/27
Porphyry Book 3, *On Abstinence from Killing Animals*

**Week Twelve**, Apr 3/5
Proclus *On Providence*

**Week Thirteen**, Apr 8/10/12
The Legacy of Ancient Greek Philosophy

Final Exam at scheduled time during exam period

**Grade Distribution:**

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>first essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>second essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>draft workshop one</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>draft workshop two</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>final</td>
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We'll devote two classes (Jan 26th, Mar 15th) to peer critique of your draft essays, which are due this night before class. You earn 5% for participating in good faith in the draft workshops, which will help you improve your essay writing and editing skills.

Deadlines may seem artificial, but a university does need to work within a time structure! I will post topics for papers 2 weeks in advance, and use class time to help you prepare your drafts and improve your editing skills. Please plan ahead - there is no need to leave essay writing to the last minute, and workload is not a reason for asking for extensions. Late penalties are not huge: they’re really an incentive for planning ahead and submitting work on time, and are normally only waived in the case of emergencies that can’t be foreseen (illness and family emergencies). Work should not submitted more than a week late, barring emergencies.

**Policies:**

Students seeking accommodation because of disabilities and special needs are asked to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

A constructive classroom environment is essential to communication, especially in a seminar: students are expected to be considerate and respectful in discussion and to help maintain an inclusive academic environment.
Please contact me if you are falling behind for whatever reason!

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when another person’s words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation. Where direct quotations are made, they must be clearly delineated (for example, within quotation marks or separately indented). Failure to provide proper attribution is plagiarism because it represents someone else’s work as one’s own. Plagiarism should not occur in submitted drafts or final works. A student who seeks assistance from a tutor or other scholastic aids must ensure that the work submitted is the student’s own. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments.