

PHI 3100: ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY
NATHAN ROTHSCHILD
FALL 2020 SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to familiarize students with some of the main ideas of the thinkers who stand at the beginning of the western philosophical tradition: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and the philosophers of the Hellenistic era. This course is the first part of the Philosophy Department's history of philosophy sequence. Together with PHH 3400: Modern Philosophy, it aims to give students an understanding of the major questions addressed in the history of Western philosophy, the range of answers offered to these questions, and the methods employed in addressing them. PHH 3100 is required of all philosophy majors and meets an area requirement for the philosophy minor. It also counts towards the Humanities and International General Education requirements.

CLASS MEETING TIME

Tuesday/Thursday, periods 5-6/6

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

Nathan Rothschild

Email: njrothschild@ufl.edu

Office: Griffin Floyd 311

Office Hours: Wednesday 1pm-4pm

Office Hours Zoom Address: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4225788584>

REQUIRED TEXTS

Five Dialogues, Plato, ISBN: 0872206335 (Hackett)

Republic, Plato, ISBN: 0872207366 (Hackett)

The Basic Works of Aristotle, Aristotle, ISBN: 0375757996 (Modern Library)

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Aristotle: The Desire to Understand, Jonathan Lear, ISBN: 0521347629 (Cambridge)

REQUIREMENTS

Quizzes	25%
Three papers (1500-2000 words each)	75%
Participation	5%

PAPERS: You will be required to write three papers over the course of the term. You will have some choice as to when to write them. I will distribute four sets of paper topics. You are required to write a paper in response to three of the four sets of topics.

- Papers are due by noon on their respective due dates. Please submit an electronic copy to Canvas.
- You must ask for an extension at least one week in advance (barring an emergency). Late assignments will be penalized one third of a letter grade for each day beyond the due date.

- Written work should be in 12pt font, double spaced, with 1 inch margins and stapled. They also must include a word count and indicate which prompt the paper is answering. Papers that do not conform to these specifications will lose one third of a grade.
- Paper topics will be distributed (roughly) one week in advance. You are also encouraged to write on a topic of your own choosing. However, you must clear the topic with me beforehand.

GRADING: The following grade scale will be used to assign final letter grades for the course. See UF grading policies for assigning grade points at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Grade Scale	Grade Value
100-93=A	A=4.0
92-90=A-	A-=3.67
89-86=B+	B+=3.33
85-82=B	B=3.00
81-79=B-	B-=2.67
78-75=C+	C+=2.33
75-72=C	C=2.00
71-69=C-	C-=1.67
68-66=D+	D+=1.33
65-62=D	D=1.00
61-60=D-	D-=0.67
59-0=E	E=0.00

WRITING CREDIT: In order to earn the writing credit in this class, you must earn a grade of C in the class AND an average grade of C or better on the writing assignments.

QUIZZES: There will be several surprise quizzes administered over the course of the semester. The quizzes will be comprised of questions pertaining to that day's assigned reading and, potentially, the material covered in the previous one or two classes. The quizzes will take place at the beginning of the class period. If you arrive late to class, you will not receive extra time to complete the quiz.

- There are no makeup quizzes. If you miss a quiz because of an excused absence, your quiz grade will be derived from the quizzes you were able to sit.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Missing class will adversely affect your ability to perform well in the course. Students are expected to show up with the text, having done the reading and prepared to participate. Attendance will not be taken. However, participation in class discussion can improve your grade. Not participating will not hurt your grade, but participating will help it.

- In order to count as present in class you must:
 - Turn on your camera and show your face

- Be sitting in a class-like setting, e.g. desk in your room. Things that do not count as sitting in a class-like setting are, lying down, your car, while walking back to your apartment, and so on.
- In order for an absence to be excused you must provide the relevant written proof (e.g., a note from the Dean of Students).

POLICIES

OFFICE HOURS: I strongly encourage you to take advantage of office hours. Come by to talk over the paper you are considering writing, or to simply think through questions about the course material.

- I prefer to schedule my office hours by appointment, but drop-ins are also encouraged. If you know you want to come, let me know and we'll set a time.
- Office hours will be held at my personal Zoom address (posted above under instructor information).

TEXTS: For the required texts, students must purchase a *paper copy of the edition listed on the syllabus*. We will read passages from these texts in class, and they will figure on the surprise quizzes. As a result, it is imperative that students not use different editions and electronic copies.

OUTSIDE SOURCES: Do not use texts or internet sources outside of those listed on the syllabus. If you would like to use an outside source when writing a paper, please clear the text with me first.

EMAIL: Email is an essential mode of communication in the course. Students are expected to read all email they receive concerning the course and to do so in a timely fashion.

- *Be sure set your Canvas notifications to "Notify me right away."* I will proceed on the assumption that you have done so.
- If you want to reach me by email, please do so via UF email and not via Canvas. If you have substantive philosophical questions, email is not the best place for these; please come visit me in office hours.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Please make sure to turn off your phone before class period begins.

RECORDING LECTURES: I will not be recording anything.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

PLAGIARISM: You are encouraged to work and exchange ideas with your fellow classmates, and you are heartily encouraged to share drafts of written work. However, you must compose and submit your own papers. Doing otherwise is plagiarism.

Plagiarism is the presenting of another's work as one's own. Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a grade of "E" for the course. Plagiarism is defined in the University of Florida's Student Honor Code as follows: "A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to): a. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution. b. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student." Students found guilty of academic misconduct will be prosecuted in accordance with the procedures specified in the UF honesty policy.

If you are not sure if something counts as plagiarism consult the Honor Code. If you are still unsure, please, do not hesitate to ask.

MAKE UP EXAMS: Requirements for make-up exams are consistent with university policies specified at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

ONLINE MATERIALS:

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION. Students are expected to provide constructive and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback is available at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results will be available to students at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/.

CANVAS E-LEARNING ENVIRONMENT. This course is supplemented by online content in the e-Learning environment known as "Canvas." To login to the e-Learning site for this course, go to <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>, click the **e-Learning Login** button under, and on the next page enter your Gatorlink username and password. Logging in will take you to the "My Workspace" page, where you can access the course e-Learning environment by clicking on the course name in the banner toward the top of the page.

- Check "Readings" for all readings, which is under the "Pages" tab.
- Check the "Announcements" and "Calendar" tools in the e-Learning environment for new course content (such as recommended readings) and due dates for assignments.

The official recommended system requirements for e-learning in Canvas are a broadband Internet connection and a fully updated and compatible browser. For Windows based PCs: Firefox 3.x or Internet Explorer 7.x or 8.x. For Macs: Firefox 3.0 or Safari 4.x. (Other browsers such as Opera, Chrome, etc. are not recommended for use with Canvas) If you encounter any difficulties logging in or accessing any of the course content, contact the UF Computing Help Desk at (352) 392-4537. Do not contact the course instructor regarding computer issues.

Schedule*

Week 1

- 9/1 Introduction
9/3 Plato: *Euthyphro* (entire)

Week 2

- 9/8 Plato: *Euthyphro*
9/10 Plato: *Apology* (entire)

Week 3

- 9/15 Plato: *Apology, Meno* (entire)
9/17 Plato: *Meno*

Week 4

- 9/22 Plato: *Republic*, opening-II.368c
9/24 Plato: *Republic*, II.368-IV.402a
9/25 First paper option due

Week 5

- 9/29 Plato: *Republic*, IV.402a-IV.445e
Singpurwalla, "The Tri-partite Theory of Motivation in Plato's *Republic*" **recommended**
9/30 Plato: *Republic*, V.449a-VI.506b
Irwin, "Plato's Theory of Forms" available through Canvas, **recommended**

Week 6

- 10/6 Plato: *Republic*, V.449a-VI.506b cont.
Plato: *Republic*, VI.506b-VII.541b
10/8 Plato: *Republic*, VI.506b-VII.541b cont.

Week 7

- 10/13 Plato: *Republic*, VIII.543a-IX.592b
10/15 Plato: *Republic*, X.595a-X.621c

Week 8

- 10/20 Aristotle: *Physics* (II.1-3, 7-9)
Aristotle: *Metaphysics* (7.7-8)
Lear: *Aristotle: The Desire to Understand* (pp. 15-28) available through Canvas
10/22 Aristotle: *Physics* (II 7-9)
Aristotle: *Metaphysics* (7.7-8), again
Lear: *Aristotle: The Desire to Understand* (pp. 28-42) available through Canvas
10/23 Second paper option due

Week 9

- 10/27 Aristotle: *Physics* (III.1-3)
Aristotle: *De Anima* (I.1, II.1-2)
Lear: *Aristotle* (pp. 55-65) available through Canvas
Lear: *Aristotle* (pp. 96-141), **recommended**

10/29 Aristotle: *De Anima* (II.3-6)

Week 10

11/3 Aristotle: *De Anima* (II.3-6, 11, 12)

11/5 Aristotle: *De Anima* (III.3-5, III.9-12)

Week 11

11/10 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (I.1-I.5, I.7-I.13)

Lear: *Aristotle* (pp. 152-64), **recommended**

11/12 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (I.13-II.5)

11/13 Third paper option due

Week 12

11/17 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (I.13-II.5) cont.

Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (II.6-7, III.6-9-IV.1)

Lear: *Aristotle* (pp. 164-74), **recommended**

11/19 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (III.1-5)

Week 13

11/23 Course Drop Deadline

11/24 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (III.1-5) cont.

Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (VI)

11/26 No Class Thanksgiving

Week 14

12/1 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (VII.1-10)

12/3 Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (X.6-8)

Lear: *Aristotle* (pp. 309-20) **recommended**

Aristotle review

Week 15

12/8 Wrap Up, final paper review

12/10 Fourth paper option due

*As with all class schedules this one is not set in stone. It may change depending on where the material takes us.