PHILOSOPHY 101: ARISTOTLE

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Meeting in person M/W/F 11-11:50am at SOLIS 109
Office hours: F 10-11am outside the classroom or by appointment

Course Description

This course offers a broad survey of the philosophy of Aristotle of Stagira
(384-322 B.C.). Beginning with an overview of his biography, works, and
exhortation to philosophy, we will proceed to examine his logic (focusing on
the theory of syllogism, demonstration, and dialectical reasoning) and
scientific method, and theory of causality. We will then examine in the basic
outline his theoretical sciences, including, physics, cosmology, biology, and
psychology, as well as offer a more detailed examination of his account of
animal reproduction, self-motion, sensation, memory, optical illusions, and
dreaming. We will also outline the structure of his practical sciences,
including his theory of habituation, virtue, justice, and the good life; his
moral-psychological accounts of fear, anger, self-control, pleasure, shame,
and vice; and the theory of mass media and fine art in his poetics and
rhetoric. At the end we will examine the principles of his politics and
economics, his account of citizenship, his classification of political regimes,
and in particular his account of republican government and the results of
mixing democracy and oligarchy.

Required Texts

The Basic Works of Aristotle, edited by R. McKeon (New York: Modern
Library, 2001) ISBN-10: 0375757996 (available at UCSD bookstore).

Objectives

- Learn to cite, interpret, and criticize the primary works of Aristotle in
  English translation.
- Survey the major topics and problems in Aristotle's philosophy,
  including his logic, physics, and ethics.
- Devise and execute an original research project on an aspect of
  Aristotle Studies, using both primary and secondary sources.
- Appreciate the seminal influence of Aristotle on the subsequent
  development of Western philosophy and science, and relate his ideas to
  current or perennial problems in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

<center>PHILOSOPHY 101: ARISTOTLE</center>

<center><u>Week 1: Introduction and Exhortation to Philosophy</u></center>

January 7   Aristotle's Life, Works, and Division of Philosophy
- Handouts: Overview of the Aristotle Corpus; How to cite Aristotle

January 9   Exhortation to Philosophy I
- *Protrepticus* (introductory material and pp.1-29).

January 11   Exhortation to Philosophy II
- *Protrepticus* (introductory material and pp.30-64).
- **Due: Personal Information form**

<center><u>Week 2: History, Art, Science and Wisdom</u></center>

January 14   Experience, Practical and Theoretical Sciences, and Wisdom
- *Metaphysics* I.1-2, II.1-3, VI.1

January 16   The Dialectical History of Causality I: Matter and Mover
- *Metaphysics* I.3-7

January 18   The Dialectical History of Causality II: Form and End
- *Metaphysics* I.8-10
- **Due: Monograph Assignment**

<center><u>Week 3: Logic</u></center>

January 21   Logic: Categories
- *Categories* 1-15

January 23   Logic: Propositions
- *On Interpretation* 1-9, and *Sophistical Refutations* 1 and 34

January 25   Logic: Syllogisms, Dialectic, and Rhetoric
- *Prior Analytics* I.1 and 1.4; *Topics* I.1; *Rhetoric* I.1
- **Due: Research Proposal: complete sections 1-8 of the research methodology.**

<center><u>Week 4: Epistemology and Explanation</u></center>

January 28   Demonstration and Induction
- *Prior Analytics* I.30; *Posterior Analytics* I.1-3 and II.19

January 30   The Four Kinds of Causal Explanation
- *Posterior Analytics* II.11; *Physics* II.3 and II.7

February 1   Theory of the Cosmos, and Explanation of an Illusion
- *On the Heaven* I.1-12; II.13-14; *Meteorology* III.2-3
- **Due: Book Report**

Week 5: Physics

February 4   Nature, and the Methods of the Natural Sciences
- *Physics* I.1, II.1-2; *Meteorology* I.1 (handout);

February 6   Luck and Spontaneity as Causes in Nature
- *Physics* II.4-6

February 8   Necessity as a Cause in Nature
- *Physics* II.8-9
- **Due: Revision and Electronic Copy of Scholar Assignment**

Week 6: Biology

February 11   Methods of Inquiry into Living Things
- *On the Soul* I.1, *History of Animals* I.1; *Parts of Animals* I.1; *Generation of Animals* I.1

February 13   Theory of Plant and Animal Reproduction
- *On the Soul* I.1-4; *History of Animals* V.1; *Generation of Animals* I.12-18, 20-23

February 15   Theory of Animal Behavior and Movement
- *History of Animals* VII.1, IX.1; II.1-4
- **Due: Research Essay Draft 1**

Week 7: Psychology

February 18   Hylomorphism, Theory of Sensation and Perception
- *On the Soul* II.5-12

February 20   Imagination, Thought, and Deliberate Action
- *On the Soul* III.1-12; *Nicomachean Ethics* I.13

February 22   Memory and Dreaming
- *On Memory and Recollection, On Dreams, On Prophesying by Dreams*
- **Due: Critique of Draft 1**

Week 8: Ethics

February 25   Methods of Ethics and Definition of *Eudaimonia*
- *Nicomachean Ethics* I.1-12, X.6-9; *Politics* VII.1-3

February 27   Theory of Moral Virtue
- *Nicomachean Ethics* II.1-III.5

March 1   Specific Moral Virtues, including Courage, Temperance, and Justice
- *Nicomachean Ethics* III.6-12 and V.1-13
- **Due: Research Essay Draft 2**

Week 9: Moral Psychology and Art

March 4   Theory of Emotions
- Nicomachean Ethics IV.5 and 9; *Rhetoric* I.2 and II.1-6

March 6   Theory of Pleasure, Self-control, and Vice
- Nicomachean Ethics VII.1-14, X.1-5

March 8   Poetry, Drama, and Mass Media
- *Poetics* 1-26

Week 10: Politics, Economics, and Democracy

March 11   Politics, Economics, and Slavery
- *Politics* I.1-13

March 13   Citizens, Equality, and Kinds of Constitutions
- *Politics* III.1-13

March 15   Democracy, Oligarchy and Republican Government
- *Politics* IV.1-16
- **Due: Final Written Examination**

Week 11: Student Research Conference

March 18   Student Presentations and Oral Examination
- Note that class meets from 11:30am-2:30pm
- **Attendance is mandatory**
- **Due: Research Handout and Presentation**
- **Due: Research Essay Final Draft**

Evaluation

<u>In order to receive credit for the course, you must retain all written work (i.e. all graded work and drafts), and hand it in as a package on March 18 at exactly 2:30pm (the scheduled end of the Final Examination; no early or late work accepted</u>). Include with the package this syllabus with the Evaluation form filled out (the completed modules checked off). If you lose any work with my written comments, you will not be able to earn credit for the associated module.

This course uses a system of evaluation called *specifications grading*. All modules for the course are graded pass/fail on the basis of the written specifications for each module. Final grades will be computed as follows (all +/- scores at the discretion of the Professor):

- <u>Pass</u> or <u>C</u>: student information form (module 0); active and prepared participation (module 1); monograph assignment (module 2); final examination (module 3), book report (module 4), research proposal (module 5); research essay draft 1 (module 6); and critique of draft 1 (module 7).
- <u>B</u>: all of the above, plus research essay draft 2 (module 8).
- <u>A</u>: all of the above, plus research essay final draft and presentation with handout (module 9).

Module 0. **Student Information Form.** Complete and submit the student information form (available for download at ted.ucsd.edu).

☐ Hand in the completed form in hard copy by the deadline (January 11) or note token use: _____.

Module 1. **Active and Prepared Participation.** This means (1) purchasing and bringing to class the textbooks for the course, (2) perfect attendance to all meetings of the class, including the final exam (except excused absences with written note, or token use), and (3) contribution to the discussion at least 5 times, either orally in class or in writing on the discussion board on ted.ucsd.edu. *Expected time required outside of class: 3 hours/week; 1.5 hours per class session to read the assigned readings and devise a question or comment.*

☐ Perfect attendance or note dates of token use: _____.
☐ Ownership of *The Basic Works of Aristotle.*
☐ Contribution to discussion. Note date and topic:

_____
☐ Contribution to discussion. Note date and topic:

_____
☐ Contribution to discussion. Note date and topic:

_____
☐ Contribution to discussion. Note date and topic:

_____
☐ Contribution to discussion. Note date and topic:

_____

Module 2. **Monograph Assignment.** This is a basic research exercise (see detailed instructions posted to ted.ucsd.edu). *Expected time required outside of class: 1-2 hours.*

☐ Hand in a hard copy of the report by the deadline: Jan. 18 (in class) or note token use: _____

Module 3. **Final Examination.** A take-home, open-book, essay exam due in hard copy at 3pm on March 15. *Expected time required outside of class: 3 hours (to review required readings, draft, and edit).*

☐ Write and hand in an examination by the deadline (March 15) or indicate token use: _____.

Module 4. **Book Report.** This is a report on the monograph you chose for module 2 (see detailed instructions at ted.ucsd.edu). *Expected time required outside of class: 10 hours to study the book and reviews of it, and to write the report.*

☐ Write and hand in the report by the deadline (February 1) or indicate token use: _____.

☐ Revise the report in accordance with the comments and submit the revised copy electronically by the deadline (February 8).

Module 5. **Research Proposal.** This involves devising a research question and compiling a basic bibliography for approaching a research question. (See detailed instructions on the Research Methodology at ted.ucsd.edu). *Expected time required outside of class: 5-6 hours.*

☐ Complete items 1-8 on the checklist of the Research Methodology.
☐ Hand in the completed proposal by the deadline (January 25) or note token use: _____.

Module 6. **Research Essay Draft 1.** 1500-2000 words, including title, abstract and bibliography. *Expected time required outside of class: 6-8 hours.*
☐ Complete items 9-15 on the checklist of the Research Methodology.
☐ Hand in the rough draft by the deadline (Feb. 15) or note token use: _____.

Module 7. **Critique of Research Essay Draft 1.** *Expected time required for completion: 1 hour.*
☐ The Professor will assign you a draft of a paper written by another student in the class. Obtain the paper from the student in person in class on Feb. 18.
☐ Read the paper carefully and note any grammatical or typographical errors or errors of citation. Handwrite comments at the end of the paper noting the strongest and weakest parts of the paper, and how you think the paper could be improved. Offer any challenges to the argument that you think need to be answered, and refer to primary or secondary sources that you have encountered in your own research which you think could be useful to the author.
☐ Hand the paper with the comments in to the Professor in class by the deadline: Feb. 22.

Module 8. **Research Essay Draft 2**. 2000-3000 words. *Expected time for completion: 5-10 hours.*
- ☐ Revise your paper on the basis of the comments you received during the critique and complete items **16-22** on the Research Methodology.
- ☐ Hand in the paper by the deadline (March 1) or note token use: _____.

Module 9. **Research Essay Draft 3 and presentation with handout**, 3000-3500 words. *Expected time required outside of class: 5-10 hours. Note:* Completion of this module requires successful completion of the previous module.
- ☐ Complete items **23-30** on the Research Methodology.
- ☐ Hand in the final draft of the paper by the deadline (March 18).
- ☐ Deliver the presentation during the student research conference on March 15 or March 18, and be prepared to answer questions about the research from the Professor or other students.

----------------------TOKENS--------------------------

Each student is automatically granted <u>two tokens</u>.

<u>One token</u> may be exchanged for:
- one unexcused absence or disruptive late arrival to class; or
- a one-week extension to hand in module **2**; or module **4**, or module **7** (modules **5** and **6** may not be handed in late); or
- a one-week extension to revise modules **2**; or module **4**, or module **7** (modules **5** and **6** may not be revised).

<u>Two tokens</u> may be exchanged for: skipping the final exam.

Note your token use here:

Token 1:

Token 2:

****************Academic Integrity***************

As a student enrolled in this class, I affirm the principle of academic integrity and commit to upholding integrity by completing all academic assignments in the manner expected, informing the instructor of suspected instances of academic misconduct by my peers, and fully engaging in the class and its related assignments for the purpose of learning.

Signature: _____

Print name here: _____

This syllabus is to be filled out and included in a file folder with all work submitted for credit in the course, including monograph assignment, book report, research proposal, research draft(s), etc.