Syllabus: PHIL 310. History of Philosophy: Ancient (CRN15473)

Fall 2012 MWF, 14:00-14:50, PAC123
Students also attend a weekly discussion section on Friday afternoons.
Professor: Peter Warnek  warnek@uoregon.edu
Office Hours (PLC 337): MW 15:00-16:30, and by appointment.

Course Description:
This course offers the student an introduction to ancient Greek philosophy, with an emphasis placed upon a careful reading of selected primary texts. The objective of the course is an understanding of the questions and concerns that are addressed within the philosophical works of Plato and Aristotle. Attention is paid to how these ancient philosophical projects still maintain a commanding position within the Western intellectual tradition. We also look at two important pre-Socratics, Heraclitus and Parmenides, and consider their relation to later developments. The emergence of ancient Greek philosophy is not considered as an historically isolated phenomenon, but is also considered as it defines itself against a poetic tradition of involving myth and tragedy. Special emphasis is placed upon the figure of Socrates as he appears in Plato’s writings; and the question is raised that concerns the tragic character of his life and philosophical activity. Students are expected to learn the Greek alphabet. There is a test dealing with basic philosophical vocabulary in the ancient Greek language.

GTF's:  Russell Duvernoy  russeld@uoregon.edu
        Lauren Eichler  leichler@uoregon.edu
        Fulden Ibrahimhakkioglu  fulden@uoregon.edu

Required Texts:

1. Plato’s Phaedrus ~ ISBN 0941051544
2. Plato’s Meno ~ ISBN 0941051714
3. Plato’s Symposium ~ ISBN 0941051560
4. Plato’s Phaedo ~ ISBN 0941051692

For full bibliographical information on these required books, please see the list included in this syllabus. These books are all published by the Focus Philosophical Library. These textbooks may be purchased at "Black Sun Books" (2455 Hilyard, 484-3777), just south of 24th and Hilyard, behind Sundance Grocery near Taste of India.

In addition to these required texts that must be purchased, readings will also be made available online as .pdf files. If the reading for the day is a .pdf on Blackboard, please be sure to download and print it ahead of time. It recommended that these readings be kept together in a binder.

Please note: I may supplement our readings with additional material. These reading will also be posted on Blackboard.

Course Requirements:
- Two exams
- Two writing assignments, 5 pages, double-spaced.
- Take-home Final Paper, 6-7 pages, due 12/3.
- Active participation in discussion groups.
- Attendance. GTF’s will take attendance at both lecture and section. Please sit in lecture in the area assigned to your section so that your GTF can record your attendance. Excessive absences will affect your grade negatively. Please note: Missing more than 3 class meetings without an
approved excuse, either in lecture or in section, will make it impossible to receive a grade higher than a C.

- Please prepare for lecture by completing the reading for the day. Much of the lecture will refer explicitly to passages in the reading. **It is important to bring the readings to lecture and to discussion.**

**Explanation of Grading Standards:**

- **A** = Excellent. No mistakes, well-written, and distinctive in some way or other.
- **B** = Good. No significant mistakes, well-written, but not distinctive in any way.
- **C** = Okay. Some errors, but a basic grasp of the material.
- **D** = Poor. Several errors. A tenuous grasp of the material.
- **F** = Failing. Problematic on all fronts indicating either not real grasp of the material or a complete lack of effort.

**Grading Breakdown:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing assignments and exams</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion, attendance and Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Take-Home</td>
<td>25%</td>
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**Writing Assignments:**

You will be asked to respond to a question or theme that has been dealt with in the lectures and discussions. There will be two papers (5 pages) and a final (6-7 pages). For due dates, see schedule. **Papers must be submitted to your GTF both as a hardcopy and digitally. Digital copies of papers are to be submitted via SafeAssign on Blackboard for the section in which you are registered. SafeAssign is a plagiarism prevention service. If you have questions about this service, please see safeassign.com or speak with your GTF.**

**Exams:**

There will be two exams. The first takes place at the end of the second week (Oct. 5) and asks you to reproduce the Greek alphabet in order, both lower and upper case. See attached sheet. The second exam will take place on November 2, and will cover the reading material dealt with during the first half of the term. Important Greek words discussed in lecture will also be on the exam. During lecture you should take note of any Greek words and their meanings.

**Late Policies and Attendance:**

Late papers will be accepted only with an extension. If you are having problems meeting a deadline, or cannot attend a discussion section, **please speak with your GTF.** (Please don’t wait until the last minute to make your request.) Please note: **Attendance is expected. Students who miss more than 3 class meetings without an approved excuse, either in lecture or discussion section will not receive a grade better than a C.**

**Disability Accommodations:**

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course please make arrangements to meet with me within the first two weeks of the course. Please request a letter from Disability Services verifying your disability and stating your needed accommodations.
Outline of Course:
(Readings marked with an asterisk will be available as .pdf files for download on Blackboard.)

9.24  Introductions; Greek Alphabet
9.28  Aristotle, *On the Soul*

10.1  Aristotle, *On the Soul*
10.3  Aristotle *Metaphysics* II.1-3*

10.8  Aristotle, *Physics* B.1-2*
10.10 Aristotle, *Ethics*
10.12 Aristotle, *Ethics*

10.15 Plato, “The Cave”*
10.19 Heraclitus*

10.22 Heraclitus*  Paper #1 due (15% of grade).
10.24 Parmenides*
10.26 Parmenides*

10.29 Plato, *Apology of Socrates* *
10.31 *Apology of Socrates* *
11.2  Plato, *Phaedrus*  Exam in discussion section (15% of grade). Greek words and other topics from class readings.

11.5  *Phaedrus*
11.7  Plato, *Meno*
11.9  *Meno*

11.14 Plato, *Symposium*
11.16 *Symposium*

11.19 Plato, *Phaedo*  Paper #2 due (20% of grade).
11.21 *Phaedo*
11.23 No class ~ Thanksgiving Break

11.26 *Phaedo*
11.28 *Phaedo*
11.30 *Phaedo*

12.3 Final paper (25% of grade) is due by 4pm at the office of Department of Philosophy, PLC 3rd floor. Please remember to submit a digital copy of the paper through SafeAssign on Blackboard.
Bibliography of Texts used in the course:


# Greek Alphabet

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<th>Lower Case</th>
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