Philosophy 421/521 - Aristotle
MW – McKenzie 121 – 6-8 PM
Professor Adam Arola
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Office Hours: 4-6 MW

Course Description
This course is to be an intensive study of the works of Aristotle, a thinker whose philosophical importance is so great that for a substantive chunk of the history of philosophy in the Western world he was known The Philosopher. To that end, our focus will fall primarily upon the *Metaphysics*; however, as Aristotle is a thinker whose ideas from text-to-text complement and build upon one another, we will have recourse to excerpts from *On The Soul* and the *Physics* as well—along with frequent discussion of issues from his writings on ethics, logic, and politics.

Assignments
Undergraduate students will be required to write two papers, a mid-term and a final. The specifics of these essays will be discussed in class, though the former will be 4-6 pages and worth 30% of the final grade, while the later will be 6-8 pages and worth 50% of the final grade. Graduate students will be required to write a single term paper of 10-12 pages which will be worth 80% of the final grade. For undergraduates, the prompts will be distributed in class, though I am always willing to hear out paper proposals. Graduate students will have to propose their own final papers. The remaining 20% of the final grade will be based upon in-class participation.

Required Texts

Week 1
M: Introducing Aristotle

Week 2
M: NO CLASS – MLK Day
W: Book 1, continued – plus an excerpt from *Physics*.

Week 3
M: Book 2
W: Book 3

Week 4
M: Book 4
W: Book 4, continued
Week 5
M: Book 5
W: Book 6

Week 6
M: Book 7 (First Undergraduate Paper Assigned)
W: Book 7, continued

Week 7
M: Book 8 (First Undergraduate Paper Due)
W: Book 9

Week 8
M: CLASS CANCELLED
W: Book 9, continued (Paper Proposals from Grad Students Due)

Week 9
M: Book 10
W: Book 11 (Final UG Paper Assigned)

Week 10
M: Book 12
W: Book 12, continued

Final Paper Due: 7PM – Monday, March 21st.