

# PHIL302

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

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## Course Summary

**Course :** PHIL302 **Title :** Ancient Western Philosophy

**Length of Course :** 8

**Prerequisites :** PHIL101 **Credit Hours :** 3

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## Description

**Course Description:** This course examines themes in the thought of Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoic, Epicurean, and neo-Platonist philosophers of the ancient world. It enables the student to enter the “great conversation” of western civilization as well as debate the fundamental questions that surround science, religion, self-awareness, ethics, and politics. (Prerequisite: PHIL101).

### Course Scope:

This course examines themes in the thought of Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoic, Epicurean, and neo-Platonist philosophers of the ancient world. It enables the student to enter the “great conversation” of western civilization as well as debate the fundamental questions that surround science, religion, self-awareness, ethics, and politics. (Prerequisite: PHIL101). Students will read a variety of authors and thinkers who represent some of the best of the earliest writers of western thought. The course covers material from Socrates to Plotinus, and also can include material on the Pre-Socratic thinkers.

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## Objectives

1. Define key trends in the development of western thought.
  2. Demonstrate critical thinking concerning the early western philosophers.
  3. Select and evaluate relevant primary sources, criticism, & research
  4. Quotes, paraphrases, and cites information correctly and consistently, with very few citation errors and misinterpretations/misuses of source material.
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## Outline

**Week 1:**

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## Topic(s)

The Formation of the Greek People  
&  
Pre-Socratics.

## Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 & 2

Students will be able to describe key reasons why the Ancient Greece served as a point of departure from which modern day western value beliefs grew.

## Reading(s)

From APUS Library

Stamatellos, Giannis. Introduction to Presocratics : A Thematic Approach to Early Greek Philosophy, with Key Readings. Hoboken, NJ, USA: John Wiley & Sons, 2012. ProQuest ebrary. Pp. 1-19, 82-90.

## Assignment(s)

Introduction Forum – due by Sunday.

Week 1 Forum – due by Sunday

## **Week 2:**

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## Topic(s)

The Socratic Period

This week we begin our investigation of the times and thinkers that composed the Socratic Period.

## Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 & 2

Students will be able to describe the epistemological views of Socrates.

## Reading(s)

From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Plato, Euthyphro

Plato, Apology

These are the recommended translations but if need be others could be used.

## Assignment(s)

Week 2 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

## **Week 3:**

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## Topic(s)

The Socratic Period

This week we continue our investigation of the times and thinkers that composed the Socratic Period.

## Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1-4

Students will be able to describe the views of Socrates.

## Reading(s)

From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Plato, Crito

This is the recommended translation but if need be others could be used.

## Assignment(s)

Week 3 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

Week 3 Project: Informational Brochure due by Sunday

## **Week 4:**

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### Topic(s)

Plato

### Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 & 2

The students will be able to describe the key philosophies of Socrates and Plato.

### Reading(s)

From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Plato, Republic, Books I-VII

This is the recommended translation but if need be others could be used.

### Assignment(s)

Week 4 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

## **Week 5:**

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### Topic(s)

Aristotle's Life and Works

### Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 – 4.

Students will be able to describe the key teachings of Aristotle.

### Reading(s)

From APUS Library:

Ross, David. Aristotle. Florence, KY, USA: Routledge, 1995. ProQuest ebrary. Pp. 161-194.

### Assignment(s)

Week 5 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

Week 5 Essay: Movie Time due by Sunday

## **Week 6:**

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### Topic(s)

The Greek Stoics  
Post-Aristotelian Philosophy (Part I)

Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 & 2

Students will be able to describe the key teachings of the Greek Stoics.

Reading(s)

From APUS Library:

Baltzy, D. (2003). 'Stoic pantheism.' *Sophia*, 42(2), 3-33.

From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives*, BOOK VII

Assignment(s)

Week 6 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

**Week 7:**

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Topic(s)

Sceptics & Epicurus

The Post-Aristotelian Philosophy (Part II)

Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1 & 2

Students will be able to describe the key teachings of the Ancient Sceptics and Epicurus.

Reading(s)

From APUS Library:

Thorsrud, Harald. *Ancient Scepticism*. Durham, GBR: Acumen, 2008. Chp. 1.

'Epicurus.' In Irwin, Terence. *Development of Ethics, Volume 1 : From Socrates to the Reformation*. Oxford, GBR: Oxford University Press, UK, 2007. ProQuest ebrary. Pp. 257-284.

From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/> :

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives*, Book X

Assignment(s)

Week 7 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

Week 7 Essay: Hellenistic and Roman Era Paper due by Sunday

**Week 8:**

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Topic(s)

Roman Philosophy

Learning Objective(s)

Learning Objectives 1-4

Students will be able to describe the key teachings of Plotinus or of other major philosophers in the Roman world.

Reading(s)

From APUS Library:

Cooper, John M. Pursuits of Wisdom: Six Ways of Life in Ancient Philosophy from Socrates to Plotinus. Princeton, NJ, USA: Princeton University Press, 2012. ProQuest ebrary. Pp. 316-341.

Assignment(s)

Week 8 Forum - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday

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## Evaluation

### Grading:

| Name  | Grade % |
|---|---------|
| Forums  | 40.00 % |
| Week 1 Introductions                          | 4.44 %  |
| Week 1 Pre-Socratic Philosophers              | 4.44 %  |
| Week 2 Socrates - Scepticism & Epistemology   | 4.44 %  |
| Week 3 Socrates - Behold the Man!             | 4.44 %  |
| Week 4 Plato                                  | 4.44 %  |
| Week 5 Aristotle - Metaphysics / Ethics       | 4.44 %  |
| Week 6 Greek Stoics                           | 4.44 %  |
| Week 7 Sceptics & Epicurus                    | 4.44 %  |
| Week 8 Roman Times                            | 4.44 %  |
| Week 3 Project: Informational Brochure        | 20.00 % |
| Week 3 Project: Informational Brochure        | 20.00 % |
| Papers Week 5 & 7                             | 40.00 % |
| Week 5 Essay: Movie Time                      | 20.00 % |
| Week 7 Essay: Hellenistic and Roman Era Paper | 20.00 % |

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## Materials

**Book Title:** Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.

**Author:** N/A

**Publication Info:** N/A

**ISBN:** N/A

This B.A. in Philosophy course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. **Online assignments are due by the last day of each week** and include Discussion Board questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded discussion board) and individual assignments (submitted for review by the Faculty Member).

From World Wide Web:

--From <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/>

Plato, *Euthyphro*,

Plato, *Apology*,

Plato, *Crito*,

Plato, *Republic*, Books I-VII

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives*, BOOK VII

[see paragraphs dealing with teachings of Stoics]

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives*, Book X [see paragraphs on 'Sovran Maxims']

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## Course Guidelines

### Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow MLA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework to the Humanities Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

### Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

### Late Assignments

#### School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. ***Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.***

### Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

### Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

### **Submission Guidelines**

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

### **Disclaimer Statement**

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

### **Communicating on the Forum**

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.
- The main response to the forum is due mid-week – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations. Late main response posts to a forum may not be accepted without prior instructor approval.
- Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week may not be graded.

### **Quizzes and Exams**

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Late quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

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## **University Policies**

### [Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)

- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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