

SOPHIA Learning

PHIL1001: Ancient Greek Philosophers (3 semester credits)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Are values relative or absolute? What is truth? The ancient Greek philosophers were among the first to ask fundamental questions about human existence, and Sophia's Ancient Greek Philosophers course provides an overview of key figures such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, and examines their role in shaping history and society. The course will also apply philosophical lenses to analyze some of life's "big questions" with new depth and perspective.

Course Effective Dates: June 2021 - Present

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisites

Length of course: This is a self-paced course. Students have 60 days with an additional 30-day extension (if needed) to complete the course.

ACE CREDIT® Recommendation: 3 semester credit hours at the lower division level

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Recognize the value of the study of philosophy and its application to everyday life.
2. Identify the nature and significance of the major branches of philosophical inquiry.
3. Understand the general philosophical positions and arguments of key ancient Greek philosophers.
4. Acknowledge the significance of ancient philosophical theories on history and society.
5. Apply good philosophical logic, reasoning, and critical thinking.
6. Compare and contrast various philosophical approaches to essential philosophical questions.
7. Apply philosophical approaches to real-world situations.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- What is Philosophy?
- Why Study Philosophy?
- Cosmology and the First Philosophers
- The Atomistic Worldview
- Parmenides and the Doctrine of Permanence

- Heraclitus and the Doctrine of Impermanence
- Socrates- the Father of Western Philosophy
- The Socratic Approach
- Introducing Arguments
- Evaluation and Analysis of Arguments
- Evaluating an Argument in Action
- The Apology- A Defense of Philosophy
- The Apology- Socrates' Arguments
- The Crito- The Duties of the Social Contract
- The Phaedo- The Death of Socrates
- Plato, an academic approach to concepts
- Plato Forms- The objects of knowledge
- Plato Forms- The foundations of being
- Applying Plato's Metaphysics
- The footnotes to Plato
- Aristotle- the dissection of reality
- Aristotle on what there is
- Plato vs. Aristotle: the mathematician or the biologist
- Aristotelianism- the naturalistic worldview
- Aristotle's highest good
- Applying Aristotle's Ethics
- Stoicism- the ethics of dispassion
- Philosophical analysis as a way of life

GRADING: This is a pass/fail course. You are required to complete all 4 formative assessments, 1 summative assessment, and 1 summative written essay with an overall course average of 70% or better.