

Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics

PLPT 4020  
Plato and Aristotle  
Fall 2020

Hours: Wednesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
and by appointment

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Books have been ordered at the University bookstore and should be purchased if at all possible. They are also on reserve in Clemons Library. Several shorter readings are on the class collab page.

**Background** A.W. Gomme, "The Working of the Athenian Democracy," *History*, 36 (1951) (collab).

Plutarch, Life of Lycurgus (collab)

*Recommended:* H.-P. Stahl, "Speeches and Course of Events in Books Six and Seven of Thucydides," in *The Speeches in Thucydides*, P. Stadter, ed. (Chapel Hill, 1973). (collab).

**Plato:** The Platonic Socrates: *Euthyphro*, *Ion*, *Hippias Minor*, *Laches*

Plato, *Complete Works*, J. Cooper, ed. (Hackett, clothbound)

**Thucydides**, *History of the Peloponnesian Wars*, R. Warner, tr. (Penguin, paperback), Selections.

I, 1-23 (pp. 35-49) Introduction

I, 66-88 (pp. 72-87) Debate at Sparta

I, 89-117 (pp. 87-103) The Rise of Athens

I, 118-125 (pp. 103-08) Congress at Sparta

I, 139-146 (pp. 118-23) Pericles' Strategy

II, 1-65 (pp. 124-64) Pericles and Athens early in the war

III, 36-49 (pp. 212-23) Mitylene

III, 70-85 (pp. 236-45) Civil War in Corcyra

IV, 17-23 (pp. 274-78) Pylos

V, 84-116 (pp. 400-08) Melian Dialogue

VI, 8 - VII, 87 (pp. 414-537) Sicilian Expedition/// CUT OUT PARTS

### **Socrates and Plato**

The Platonic Socrates: *Apology*, *Crito*, *Symposium* 212c-223c (pp. 493-505. in our edition)

*Euthydemus* 278d-282d (pp. 715-19, in our edition), 288d-292e (pp. 726-30), *Protagoras*

Plato: *Gorgias*, *Republic*,

Later Works: *Parmenides* 126a-135e; *Statesman*, *Epistle 7*, *Laws* (Selections to be announced).

*Recommended*: G. Klosko, "The Platonic Corpus" (collab)

### **Aristotle**

Aristotle, *The Ethics*, J.A.K. Thompson, tr. (Penguin, paperback):

Books I, II, III.1-6, 5, 6, 7.1-4, 10

Aristotle, *Politics*, Revised ed., T. A. Sinclair and T. Saunders, trs. (Penguin, paperback):

Books I.1-7, II.1-6, III, IV.1, IV.11, V.12, VII-VIII

### **Requirements**

Aside from doing the reading and discussing it, there are three written requirements.

**1. Midterm**, and **final** examinations. Tentatively, Midterm posted on collab **Thursday Oct 1; due Monday Oct. 5 (11:59 PM)**.

**Final Exam** Posted on collab, **Monday Nov. 30; due 11:59 PM Monday Dec. 7**.

**2. Analytical paper, 12-15 pages; due last day of class, Tuesday Nov. 24, 11:59 PM .**

Papers must be handed in on time. Late papers will be penalized. Incompletes will not be given.

**Grading**: Midterm will count 25% of your grade, with paper and final exam each counting 37.5%. I view this as a discussion class, and so participation in class discussions is a significant factor in grading. I cannot assign this a definite percentage. But class participation will figure along with other grades, with good participation significantly helping your grade.

Multiple unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the course or penalties on course grades.

## Secondary Works

I have placed the following works on reserve.

E. Barker, *Greek Political Theory: Plato and His Predecessors* (London, 1918; rpt. 1947).

D. Bostock, *Aristotle's Ethics* (Oxford, 2000).

\*P. Friedlander, *Plato*, 3 vols., H. Meyerhoff, trans. (Princeton, 1959-68).

\*G. Grote, *Plato and the other companions of Sokrates*, 3rd ed. 3 vols. (London, 1875).

\*W.K.C. Guthrie, *A History of Greek Philosophy*, 6 vols. (Cambridge, 1962-81), Vols. 4-6.

M. Hansen, *Athenian Democracy in the Age of Demosthenes*. J. A. Crook, trans. 1991; rpt.

Norman, Ok., 1999.

W.F.R. Hardie, *Aristotle's Ethical Theory*, 2nd ed. (Oxford, 1982).

W. Jaeger, *Paideia*, 3 vols., G. Highett, trans. (Oxford, 1939-45)

G. Klosko, *The Development of Plato's Political Theory*, 2nd ed. (Oxford, 2006).

R. Kraut, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Plato* (Cambridge, 1992).

G. Morrow, *Plato's Cretan City* (Princeton, 1960).

R.G. Mulgan, *Aristotle's Political Theory* (Oxford, 1977).

K. Popper, *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, Vol. I, *The Spell of Plato* (Princeton, 1966)

\*P. Shorey, *What Plato Said* (Chicago, 1933)

H.-P. Stahl, *Thucydides : Man's Place in History* (1966; English trans., Swansea, 2002).

\*A.E. Taylor, *Plato: The Man and His Work*, 6th ed. (1952; rpt. Cleveland, 1956).

(\* indicates standard, dialogue by dialogue commentary on Plato)