Course Content
This course will explore the beginnings of Western civilization by surveying the earliest writings of the original Greek thinkers. The Greek section of the course, which is almost the entire course, begins with a look at the oldest surviving pieces of literature in the Western world (Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*) and moves through Aristotle, the thinker who profoundly influences our modern perspective of the world, to some of the Hellenistic schools such as Epicureanism and Stoicism as well as Neo-Platonism. We begin with a look at the image of human-being in the early writings of Homer and Hesiod and trace this development through the early Pre-Socratic philosophers—Anaximander, Anaximenes, Xenophanes and so forth to Heraclitus and Pythagoras—and compare this view with conceptions of the body and soul found in Plato and Aristotle. Throughout this development we will look at other important issues found in early Greek thought, art, and culture: the relationship between mythology and philosophy, mythology and science, philosophy and science, as well as the relationship between self and world. The focus of the entire course will be on the development of metaphysics and epistemology. Students will be introduced to several Ancient Greek terms (of which many are roots of English words) and are expected to develop a working vocabulary of these words throughout the course of the semester. Upon completion of the “Greek Phase” we then examine in short form the Greek influence on the Medieval and Renaissance Periods of Europe. The emphasis of this course will be on the Greek Phase.

This course provides a historical perspective to the current way(s) we view ourselves and our world; it is an archaeological expedition that uncovers the foundations of contemporary Western man and woman and how we think and relate to the world in which we find ourselves.

Course Objectives
The course is designed to provide an in-depth overview of some of the most important philosophers and philosophical movements in western antiquity and in the early medieval period. To this end we shall examine readings from a select number of thinkers starting with the Presocratics and moving through Plato, Aristotle, and Stoicism to the Medievals, with a view to gaining an initial understanding of some of the fundamental tenets and scope of their philosophical thought. Clearly, within the confines of a fifteen-week semester, we can focus on only select philosophers. This may leave many feeling dissatisfied at having gained only a rudimentary understanding of the philosophers in question. It is important, however, that participants in the class recognize this is intrinsic to the nature of a survey-type course. The major objective is to gain a sense of the developments that occur over an entire period of philosophical thought.

More specific objectives include:

1. To develop an understanding of Western philosophy, its historical development and relation to subsequent disciplines and forms of inquiries emerging from it
2. To develop a working philosophical vocabulary, one that is especially appropriate for other disciplines
3. To achieve a level of competence when dealing with a philosophical problem within philosophical and historical contexts
4. To understand and appreciate the origin and development of Western values and knowledge
5. To develop the necessary critical faculties to deal with philosophical problems and issues in a written and verbal format
6. To develop critical skills applicable to all facets of life
7. To incorporate the philosophical and historical perspective into one’s professional and personal life
8. To develop one’s conceptual abilities and expand our sense of being in the world and in history
9. To develop the "whole person" as one who is not narrowly defined

Attendance Policy
There are no excused absences in college. Students are responsible for all material covered in the course, which includes lectures and discussions, readings, documentary presentations, and everything covered in class and outside assignments.

Evaluation
Philosophy 3000 is a reading and writing intensive course.
Exams will cover:

- Pre-Socratic philosophy that incorporates interpretive readings in the book by Reginald E Allen, Thomas A. Blackson (20 points)
- A thematic essay on the relation of Presocratic philosophy to Plato and Aristotle. This assignment will incorporate textual readings from ancient sources and engage the interpretation in these sources with a look to the Medieval Period. (25 points)
- A Review Essay on *What Is Ancient Philosophy?* by Pierre Hadot (20 points) 5-7 pages
- Comprehensive Final Exam  (25 points)
- An additional 10 points will be assessed for engaged attendance and active participation as well as completion of other outside assignments. Students will be randomly selected to give a précis of the previous class at the beginning of class. Failure to perform adequately will result in a 2 point deduction from this 10 point total.

➢ All writing done outside of class must be word-processed.

Grading will be based strictly on the following scale:

- 90+=A
- 80-89=B
- 70-79=C
- 60-69=D
- 59=F

Of note: The Mike Ryan Lecture Series covers a variety of philosophical topics and is delivered by the Philosophy Student Association. Lectures are scheduled usually at 12:30 on Thursdays and last approximately 90 minutes. Extra credit may be offered for these lectures any other approve philosophical lectures on campus or elsewhere. The papers will be exegetical and critical in nature.

Course Format
Classroom sessions will be both lecture and discussion with the emphasis placed on informal lecture. Students are encouraged and expected to ask questions and must be prepared each class to discuss the problems and issues of the class.

Writing Center:
The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all students. Experienced writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process (on concerns such as topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics) although assistants cannot edit or proofread your paper for you. Appointments are strongly encouraged. For more information or to make an appointment, visit http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter, or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.
Course and Classroom Policies
All work completed outside of class must be word-processed. There are no guaranteed provisions for extra-credit in Philosophy 3000. Attendance in Philosophy 3000 is necessary and mandatory. Consider the statement on academic honesty in the *Kennesaw State University Undergraduate Catalogue* to be a part of this Course Description and Syllabus. Students caught plagiarizing will receive an automatic failure for the course. Active cellular telephones or paging devices must be disabled during class. Also, in order to enhance critical listening skills, no audio or visual taping of lectures is permitted without the instructor’s approval.

Course Expectations
Assigned texts and portions of those texts must be read carefully and completely in advance of being covered in lecture, and read again after the lectures. Reading texts should be regarded as an independent task coordinated with that of listening to the lectures. Do not assume one can be substituted for the other. Students are advised to make reading notes and strongly discouraged the use of commercial study guides and other such insubstantial abstracts. Students should take detailed lecture notes.

You should consult with me, or my assistant, when you have trouble understanding something in readings or lectures, or when you wish to pursue a topic beyond the level at which it is covered in lecture. Consultation hours are maintained for this purpose.

Philosophy demands a high degree of skill in writing. Students beginning the study of philosophy are expected to be competent writers and their skills are expected to show distinct improvement as their study of philosophy progresses. Consequently, students should expect that their writing will be held to higher standards than in other courses. Writing will be given considerable attention to promote improvement.

Class Notes Policy
Notes or recordings made by students in this class based on my lectures, discussion group or class discussions are not permitted. Permission to make notes or recordings falls within my discretion as the instructor and as informed by instructional purposes, classroom order, property interests and other reasonable considerations arising in the academic context. Notes and recordings of this class may not be exchanged or distributed for any commercial purpose, for compensation, or for any purpose other than your personal study. Unless authorized by the University in advance and explicitly and in writing permitted by me, commercial or any non-personal use of class notes or recordings constitutes an unauthorized commercial activity. As the instructor in this course, I retain all intellectual property rights in the lecture materials. Misuse of course notes or recordings derived from lecture material may also subject you to legal proceedings.

Special Note on Academic Integrity:
If any student plagiarizes in writing a paper, that is, copies or closely paraphrases from a source without proper quotation and acknowledgment of the source, that student will be given a failing grade in the course.

Required Texts:
*Greek Philosophy Thales to Aristotle 3rd Edition*
Reginald E Allen

*What Is Ancient Philosophy?*
Pierre Hadot
Belknap Press
ISBN-10: 0674013735 (paperback)

*Ancient Greek Philosophy: From the Presocratics to the Hellenistic Philosophers* [Paperback]
Thomas A. Blackson
Wiley-Blackwell; 1 edition (March 7, 2011)

* Note that there is not a textbook for this class. Students who feel uncomfortable reading and studying original texts in
translation are advised to withdraw at the beginning of the term. Many of the readings are very difficult and require serious engagement. Making a significant time commitment to this course is essential.
## HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I SYLLABUS - PHILOSOPHY 3000 – Fall 2013

Dates are subject to change, but topics will be discussed in order.

*Class Readings in Greek Philosophy: From Thales to Aristotle (Allen)*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPICS and READINGS</th>
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| Aug. 20 - Sept. 10 | Course Introduction, Introduction to Philosophy  
The Greek Mythic World: Hesiod's *Kosmos*  
Homer's *Psyche*  
The Beginning of Philosophy:  
Thales, Conceptualizing the World – Monism  
Anaximander’s *Apeiron*, Anaximenes’ *Archē*  
Xenophanes: The Question of Personification  
Read appropriate handouts  
Read Appropriate Sections in Allen and Blackson |
| Sept. 17    | Pythagoras: Mathematics and the World  
The Immortality of Soul and Beans  
Heraclitus: Change and Pluralism  
Read Appropriate Sections in Allen and Blackson |
| Sept. 24    | Parmenides: The Quest for Truth & Being  
Zeno: Logical Paradoxes and Reality  
Read Appropriate Sections in Allen |
| Oct. 8      | **Exam 1**                                                                 |
| Oct. 8 - 22 | Empedokles: The Cosmic Balance  
Anaxagoras: Conceiving the Mind  
Democritus: The Atomic Theory  
Socrates, the Sophists, and Plato:  
The Politics of Truth  
*Euthyphro*, *Apology*, *Crito*  
Read Appropriate Sections in Allen and Blackson |
| Oct. 11     | **Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty**                                |
| Oct. 22 - 29| Plato: Death, Immortality and Soul  
*Phaedo*, Plato’s Theory of Ideas; *Republic* Books I-X  
Revisit the *Crito* |
| Oct. 29     | **Book Review Essay due**                                                         |
| Nov. 5-19   | Plato: The Idea of Beauty and Love, and Madness: *Phaedrus* and *Symposium*  
Read: *Phaedrus* and *Symposium* selections  
Read: *Parmenides* 127b-135d  
Plato: The Universal Harmony: Music of the Spheres  
*Timaeus*. For Aristotle’s View  
Aristotle: World and God |
Categories, Physics, Metaphysics, On the Soul, Ethics, and Politics
Read: Selections in Allen and Blackson
Lectures on:
- Stoicism and Epicureanism;
- Neo-Platonism and Augustine: The Metaphysics of God;
- Aquinas: Reason and Faith;
- The Renaissance: Art and Faith

Nov. 19       Exam 2
Nov. 21-25    Autumn Break
Dec. 3        Catch up day and Review
Dec. 5        Final Exam