WELCOME to Ancient Greek Philosophy—an excursion through the ideas of early Greek thinkers, who shifted Greek thinking from mythic descriptions of the world to observational ones. We’ll encounter a range of early philosophers collectively grouped as Presocratics and selections of Plato and Aristotle, capped by the diverse ideas of Sophists, Cynics and Stoics.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
► Add: Additional readings available on HSP Box online.

Guide to this Syllabus: readings from both the Book (Bk) and Additional Readings (Add) are sorted by theme, to help the reader to see connecting patterns of thought. You may read as sorted or as presented in the book, whichever you prefer.

1 Sep. 23  Introduction to the course  
► Historical and Cultural Background to the development of Greek Philosophy  
► THE MILESIANS, in Mileto, Ionia (Turkey west coast):
  ▶ THALES, ca. 625-560  
  ◆ Principles and Elements: Bk #3, p. 8; Add p. 2  
  ◆ Astronomy: Add p. 2  
  ◆ Earth’s nature: Bk #4, p. 8; Add p. 2  
  ◆ Geometry: Add pp. 2-3  
  ◆ Soul: Bk #5, p. 8  
  ◆ Life practices: Bk #1-2, p. 7  
  ◆ Ethics: Add p. 3  
  ◆ Public engagement: Add p. 3  
  ▶ ANAXIMANDER, ca. 610-546  
  ◆ Principles and Elements: Bk #1-2, p. 9; Add p. 3  
  ◆ Astronomy: Bk #3-6, p. 9  
  ◆ Meteorology: Bk #7, p. 9  
  ◆ Earth’s nature: Bk #8, p. 9; Add p. 3  
  ◆ Evolution: Bk #9-11, p. 10  
  ▶ ANAXIMENES, ca. 585-525  
  ◆ Principles and Elements: Bk #1-5, pp. 10-11  
  ◆ Astronomy: Bk #8, p. 11; Add p. 3  
  ◆ Meteorology: Bk #9, p. 11  
  ◆ Earth’s nature: Bk #10, p. 11

2 Sep. 30  PYTHAGOREANS  
► PYTHAGORAS, ca. 560-490, Samos to Croton, S. Italy  
  ◆ Principles and Elements: Bk #13-15, pp. 14-15  
  ◆ Ontology: Bk #10, p. 14
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- Astronomy: Add p. 3
- Geometry: Add p. 3
- Soul: Bk #7, p. 15; Add p. 4
- Soul/Reincarnation: Bk #5-6, p. 15
- Reincarnation: Bk #1, 8, p. 15; Add p. 5
- Life practices: Bk #2-4, 9, 11-12, pp. 15-16; Add pp. 4-5

**PHILOLAUS, b. ca. 490-470, Croton**
- Principles and Elements: Bk #5, 7-8, 11, 13-14, pp. 62-3
- Ontology: Bk #1-4, 6, 7-8, 11, 13-14, p. 62
- Astronomy: Bk #9, p. 63
- Ethics: Bk #10, p. 63
- Human nature: Bk #12, p. 63

**FEMALE PYTHAGOREANS**—many writings linguistically date to late Hellenistic and are attributed to renowned female Pythagoreans from Pythagoras’ time onwards
- **THEANO**: I, student & wife of Pythagoras; 2 writers distinguished as Theano I and II
  - Principles and Elements: Add p. 6
  - Soul: Add p. 5
  - Apophtegmata (“Sayings”)—Ethics: Add p. 5
  - Life practices: Add p. 6
- **PHINTYS**, possibly Sparta, late 5th c.
  - Ethics: Add pp. 6, 8
- **AISARA**, Lucania, 5th c.
  - Soul: Add p. 7
- **PERIKTIONE**: I, Plato’s mother?; 2 writers distinguished as Periktione I and II
  - Ontology: Add p. 5
  - Ethics: Add pp. 8-9

3 Oct. 7 **THE RELATIVISTS AND PLURALISTS:**
- **XENOPHANES, ca. 570-500**, Kolophon, Ionia, to Zancle, Sicily
  - Principles and Elements: Bk #28, p. 18
  - Ontology: Add p. 10
  - Astronomy: Bk #23-24, p. 18
  - Geometry: Bk #75, p. 24
  - Meteorology: Bk #19, 21, pp. 17, 18
  - Earth’s nature: Bk #16-18, p. 17
  - Epistemology: Bk #20, 29-33a, p. 18
  - Theology: Bk #6-15, 27, pp. 17-18
  - Human nature: Bk #22, p. 18
  - Reincarnation: Bk #3, pp. 16-17
  - Evolution: Bk #33b-34, p. 19
  - Life practices: Bk #2, 5, 26, pp. 17-18
- **HERAKLEITOS, ca. 545-485**, Ephesos, Ionia
  - Principles and Elements: Bk #50, 53-54, p. 23
  - Ontology: Bk #11-12, 37-40, 44-49, 55-59, 66-67, 74, 76, 78, 82, pp. 21-24; Add p. 10
  - Astronomy: Bk #84-86, p. 24
  - Earth’s nature: Bk #83, p. 24
  - Epistemology: Bk #10, p. 21
  - Theology: Bk #9, 15, 22, 73, 77, 90-91, 105-108, pp. 21-25
  - Soul: Bk #42-43, 51-52, 63, 87, pp. 22-24
Ethics: Bk #16-18, 29, 33-36, 79, 100-104, pp. 21-25
Animal nature: Bk #31, 8-72, pp. 22, 24
Life practices: Bk #23-24, 64-65, 80-81, 94, pp. 21-25

**EMPEDEKLES, 492-432,** Akragas, Sicily
- Principles and Elements: Bk #34, 75, 81, 87, pp. 38, 43-44
- Ontology: Bk #35-43, 48, 50, 78, 106-7, pp. 38-46; Add p. 10
- Astronomy: Bk #57, 67-68, 70, p. 42-3; Add p. 11
- Meteorology: Add p. 11
- Earth's nature: Bk #65-6, 69, 71-74, 79-80, p. 43-4
- Theology: Bk #4, 25, 28, 33, 61, 100, pp. 35, 37-8, 42-3, 45
- Reincarnation: Bk #11-12, 15, 17-18, p. 36; Add p. 11
- Ethics: Bk #7, 19, pp. 35, 37
- Human nature: Bk #1-3, 6, 13-14, 23, 26, 31, 88, 90-91, 95-98, 110, pp. 35-37, 44-7
- Animal nature: Bk #5, 22, 85, pp. 35, 37, 44
- Life practices: Bk #20-21, 51-52, pp. 37, 42

**ANAXAGORAS, ca. 500-428,** Clazomenae, Ionia
- Principles and Elements: Bk #1-2, 24-26, pp. 48, 50
- Ontology: Bk #3-5, 10-15, 27-28, pp. 48-50; Add pp. 11-12
- Astronomy: Bk #18, p. 50; Add p. 12
- Meteorology: Bk #19, p. 50; Add p. 12
- Earth’s nature: Bk #16, p. 49; Add p. 12
- Epistemology: Bk #20-21, p. 50
- Human nature: Bk #23, p. 50; Add p. 12
- Animal nature: Bk #22, p. 50

4 Oct. 14  **THE ELEANS,** Elea, Sicily:
- **PARMENIDES, ca. 490-440**
  - Ontology: Bk #3-6, 8, 12-13, 19, pp. 27-30
  - Astronomy: Add p. 13
  - Earth’s nature: Bk #14, p. 30
  - Ethics: Bk #1-2, 19 pp. 27
  - Human nature: Bk #16, p. 30
  - Human reproduction: Bk #17-18, p. 30
- **ZENO, ca. 465-390**
  - Ontology: Bk #1-5, pp. 31-2
  - Paradoxes: Bk #6-8, 11-12, pp. 32-3
- **[MELISSUS, 5th c., Samos]**

5 Oct. 21  **THE ATOMISTS:**
- **LEUKIPPOS, ca. 580-510,** Elea or Miletos, school in Abdera, and
- **DEMOKRITOS, ca. 460-388,** Abdera to Athens
  - Principles and Elements: Bk #1-2, 24-26, pp. 48, 50; Add p. 13
  - Ontology: Bk #24, 43-44, 46-47, pp. 56, 58; Add p. 13
  - Atomic theory: Bk #1-2, 4, 6, 9-12, 15, 17-18, 21-23, 27-28, 30-32, 42, 45, 49, pp. 52-6, 58-9
  - Astronomy: Bk #33, 35-36, p. 57
  - Meteorology: Bk #37, p. 57
  - Geometry: Bk #29, p. 56
6 Oct. 28 THE SOPHISTS:

- **PROTAGORAS, ca. 490-420**, Abdera to Athens
  - Principles and Elements: Add p. 14
  - Ontology: Bk #8, p. 65; Add p. 15
  - Theology: Bk #5, p. 64
  - Life practices: Bk #1-4, 7, pp. 64-5
  - Public engagement: Add p. 15
  - Rhetoric: Bk #10-13, p. 65; Add p. 15
- **GORGIAS, ca. 485-380**, Leontini, Sicily, to Athens
  - Ontology/Rhetoric: Bk #2, pp. 67-9; Add pp. 15-16
  - Ethics: Add p. 15
  - Rhetoric: Bk #1, pp. 66-7; Add pp. 15-16
  - Public engagement: Add p. 16
- **PRODIKOS, b. ca. 460**, Keos
  - Theology: Bk #2-3, p. 69
  - Ethics: Add pp. 16-18
  - Rhetoric: Bk #1, p. 69

7 Nov. 4  **PLATO, 428-348**, Athens: passages marked by ms. # in margins and Bk page #

- **Apology**, transliteration of Greek *Apologia*, “Defense Speech,” not an apology
  - 17a1-23c, pp. 90-94: the charges against Sokrates and what caused them
  - 28b3-31d9, pp. 97-100: basis for action; fear of death; care of the soul; Sokrates as gadfly, his *daimonion* (“little spirit,” his inner voice)
  - 40a1-42a6, pp. 105-6: Sokrates’ view of death and his end
- **Phaedo**
  - 107c1-118a18, pp. 196-201: immortal soul; nature of the earth; Sokrates’ end
- **Symposium**: speeches in praise of Eros, male god of Love
  - 172a1-173b12, p. 202: setting the scene
  - 178b9-180b12, pp. 206-7: Phaedrus’ speech: Athenian male love culture
  - 180c4-181d13, pp. 207-8: Pausanias: Common and Heavenly Aphrodites
  - 183d5-184e7, pp. 209-10: Pausanias: proper relationship between lover and beloved
  - 189d7-193d8, pp. 212-15: Aristophanes: Love – the desire for original human other half
  - 208e5-212b2, pp. 225-6: Sokrates: a là Diotima: Love – the desire for Idea of Beauty

Nov. 11  **VETERANS DAY – NO CLASS**

8 Nov. 18  **PLATO, cont.**

- **Republic**: seeking definition of justice
  - 376c4-7, p. 266: nature of the guardians
  - 389b10-d6, p. 206-7: noble lie
  - 386a1-392a1, pp. 272-5: proper and improper stories for the guardians to hear
  - 395b11-396b4, p. 278: no improper imitation
  - 397e12-398b3, pp. 279-80: no multi-imitation
  - 412b11-417b10, pp. 289-92: rulers
451d4-462a1, pp. 313-20: women as guardians; women and children in common
473c13-e4, p. 328: philosopher-kings
476b3-482a16, pp. 330-333: knowledge of Beauty vs ignorance and belief
514a1-520d6, pp. 352-6: allegory of the cave; the philosopher’s duty

Nov. 25  THANKSGIVING WEEKEND – NO CLASS

9 Dec. 2  ARISTOTLE, 384-322, Chalcidice, N. Greece, to Athens
    ◆ Physics
    ◆ II.3 194b16-195b31, pp. 484-5: the 4 causes
    ◆ II.5 198b10-199b37, pp. 489-90: causes in nature
    ◆ De Anima (On the Soul):
    ◆ I.1-2 402a1-408b30, pp. 512-15: knowledge of the soul
    ◆ III.3-4 428a1-430a8, pp. 523-25: imagination and understanding
    ◆ Nicomachean Ethics,
    ◆ I.1-II.3, 1094a1-1105a16, pp. 578-88: the good; politics aims for highest good; types of happiness; types of virtue
    ◆ I.6, 1096a11-1097a14, Add pp. 18-19: against Plato’s Forms
    ◆ II.6, 1106a13-1107a25, pp. 589-90: the mean
    ◆ II.9, 1109a20-1109b26, pp. 592-3: finding the mean
    ◆ V.1, 1129a1-1130a34, pp. 599-600: justice entails doer of just actions
    ◆ VI.5, 7, 1140a24-b30, 1141a8-b22, pp. 606-7: types of wisdom
    ◆ IX.8, 1168a27-1169b2, pp. 615-16: love for oneself and another
    ◆ X.7-9, 1177a12-1181b25, pp. 618-23: contemplation as highest form of happiness
    ◆ Politics
    ◆ I.1-13, 1252a1-1260b24, pp. 623-35: natural relationships: master-slave, husband-wife, father-child; from household to city; on slavery; types of wealth; types of rule, reasoning ability
    ◆ II.4, 1260b25-1262b35, pp. 635-36: against Sokrates’ idea of the commonality of women and children in Plato’s Republic
    ◆ I.12, 1259a36-1259b16, Add p. 19: hierarchy of reasoning ability
    ◆ VII.3, 1325b13-32, p. 652: the best life

10 Dec. 9  4th – 3rd c. Philosophers:
    ◆ Cynics:
    ◆ Diogenes, ca. 410-320, Sinope (s. central Black Sea) to Athens, Corinth
      ◆ Ethics: Add p. 19
      ◆ Human nature: Add pp. 20-21
      ◆ Life practices: Add p. 21
    ◆ Krates, 360-280, Thebes
      ◆ Human nature: Add pp. 21-22
    ◆ Hipparkhia, late 4th – 3rd c., Maroneia
      ◆ Life practices: Add p. 22
    ◆ Epicurus, 341-270, Samos to Athens
      ◆ Ontology: Add p. 22
      ◆ Atomic theory: Add pp. 22
      ◆ Astronomy: Add p. 22-23
      ◆ Soul: Add p. 23
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- Ethics: Add pp. 23-4
- Life practices: Add pp. 24-5

- **Stoics:**
  - **Zeno, 335-263,**
    - Ethics: Add p. 25
    - Epistemology: Add p. 25
    - Life practices: Add pp. 25-6
  - **Epictetus, d. 135 CE,** Phrygia, Rome, Nikopolis, NW Greece, *The Handbook*

- Concluding discussion

**MODERN COLLECTIONS:** Translations, some Interpretations
Cambridge UK.
Hackett.
Praeger/ Oklahoma.
Nijhoff Publ.