

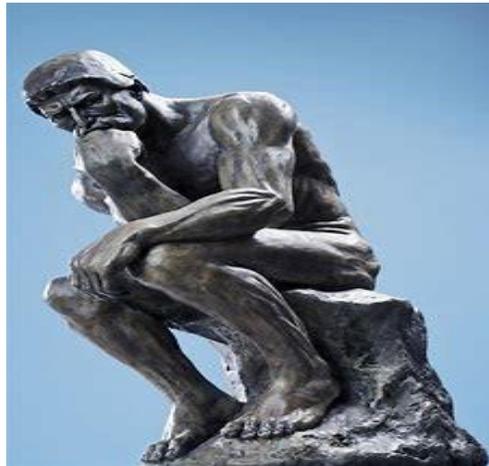
Philosophy 70A-01: Ancient Philosophy

Fall 2024

Instructor: Michael Jordan

Time: MW 9:00AM - 10:15AM

Location: Sweeney Hall 241



Philosophy 70A Course Description: Phil 70-A offers a comprehensive exploration of the foundational ideas and thinkers of both Western and Eastern philosophy, providing students with a broad understanding of the diverse intellectual traditions that have shaped human thought. Through critical examination of primary texts and philosophical discussions, students will delve into the rich tapestry of ideas and questions that emerged in ancient Greece, Rome, India, and China. We will address questions such as: What is the nature of reality? What are the primary elements of existence? What is the nature of justice? How can we attain knowledge? What is the ideal form of government? What is the role of duty and obligation in society? What is the nature of the self? How should one live a virtuous life? How can we achieve happiness? What is the nature of the good life?

Special attention will be given to understanding the historical, cultural, and religious contexts in which these philosophical ideas emerged, as well as their enduring relevance to contemporary debates and concerns. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding of fundamental questions that have preoccupied philosophers across cultures and centuries.

GE area C2