

Ancient Philosophy (PHIL 70A): **The Search for Wisdom at the Dawn of History.**

Tuesdays/Thursdays, 9:00-10:15am, Synchronous (Online with Zoom).
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Why is there something rather than nothing? Is there more to existence than the physical world? Why do natural things act the way they do? Are we bodies or souls or something else? How do I live a good life? What is the best way to organize ourselves politically? Some of the oldest texts that still exist address these Big Questions. But, perhaps more importantly, some of the answers given to these questions by the ancients still exercise an enormous influence today. In this course we will join ancient figures from around the world – everyone from Confucius and Laozi to Moses and Jesus of Nazareth to Vyasa and Buddha to Plato and Aristotle – on their search for wisdom. We will do our best to understand their widely differing worldviews and put them all to the test as we work on our critical thinking skills. I hope you'll join us on the path!

GE Area: Satisfies C2 – Letters. (3 units)