

Great Ancient Greek Philosophers: Socrates, Plato and Aristotle

Start date 31st May, 2019**End date** 2nd June, 2019**Venue** Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge**Tutor** Dr. Karim Esmail**Course code** 1819NRX014**Director of Academic Centres** Sarah Ormrod**For further information on this course, please contact** Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus
zara.kuckelhaus@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746204**To book** See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Karim Esmail BA MPhil MPhil PhD

Educated at Oxford, Cambridge, London, and Harvard.

Awarded a British Academy Studentship.

Awarded the Gregg Bury Prize at Cambridge.

Formerly, Research Fellow, Oxford & Burney Student, Cambridge & Visiting Fellow, Harvard.

Alongside international articles, Dr Esmail is the author of two clear, original, and best-selling investigations of God's nature and existence: *God A brief philosophical introduction* (2016); *God A brief philosophical introduction II* (2019).

He lectures at both Oxford and Cambridge.

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Introduction
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Socrates
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Plato
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Plato
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Plato ; Aristotle
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Aristotle
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Aristotle
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To provide an understanding of some of the key elements in the thought of Socrates and in the thought in particular of Plato and Aristotle.
- To enable students to *begin* to engage critically with their thought.

Content:

Socrates, Plato and Aristotle are the greatest of ancient Greek philosophers.

This course is an introduction to some of the key elements in their thought.

It considers the Greek world prior to Socrates and it considers Socrates on ethics.

It considers Plato on the soul and its immortality in the *Phaedo* and, in particular, on the perfectly just city-state in the *Republic*. (The latter includes above all a consideration of Plato on the Philosopher King and the Forms and the Form of the Good.)

It also considers Aristotle on among other things language and logic in the *Organon* and on change and cause in the *Physics* and on “happiness” in the *Nichomachean Ethics*.

Presentation of the course:

Lectures and discussion.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should have:

- An understanding of some of the key elements in the thought of Socrates and in the thought in particular of Plato and Aristotle.
- And be able to *begin* to engage critically with their thought.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Kenny, A.,	<i>A New History of Western Philosophy</i>	Oxford 2012
Annas, J.,	<i>An Introduction to Plato's Republic</i>	Oxford, 1981
Barnes, J. (ed.),	<i>The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle</i>	Cambridge, 1995
Guthrie, W K C.,	<i>A History of Greek Philosophy</i>	Cambridge, 1962-1969
Irwin, T H.,	<i>Classical Philosophy</i>	Oxford, 1999
Kraut, R. (ed.),	<i>The Cambridge Companion to Plato</i>	Cambridge, 1992
Taylor, C.C. W, <i>et al.</i> ,	<i>Greek Philosophers</i>	Oxford 1999

Website addresses

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 14 May 2019