

Department: Philosophy

Course number: PHIL 221W

Title: Ancient Philosophy

Credits: 3

Contact Person: Donald Baxter

Catalog Copy: 221W Ancient Philosophy (Also Offered as CAMS 257W)

Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: At least one of PHIL 101,102,103,104,105,106. Open to sophomores or higher.

Greek philosophy from its origin in the Pre-Socratics through its influence on early Christianity. Readings from the works of Plato and Aristotle.

W Criteria : 221 W assigns two papers, one of 8-10 pages, on a topic in Plato, and one of 7-9 pages on an assigned topic in Aristotle. The papers consist in large part of carefully explaining arguments. One cannot understand a philosophical view without being able to explain its reasons carefully, so the papers are integral to the class. The papers count for 50% of the final grade. Some class time is devoted to explaining how to write a philosophy essay. The students turn in drafts of their papers which are returned to students, with written comments, for revision and clarification. Additional oral comments are usually provided as well.

Role of Grad Students: This course is taught entirely by faculty. No graduate students are involved in teaching or grading.