Professor Monte Ransome Johnson <u>monte@ucsd.edu</u> HSS 7058 Office Hours: T/Th 2-3pm

> Meeting Tu/Th 3:30-4:50pm at WLH 2209 and online at: ted.ucsd.edu

Course Description

This course offers a broad survey of the philosophy of Aristotle of Stagira (384-322 BC). Beginning with an overview of his logic, scientific method, and cognitive science, we will proceed to examine the principles of his theoretical science, including, physics, cosmology, biology, physiology, and psychology, as well as examples of his explanations of such phenomena as meteorological halos, memory, dreaming, and animal motion. We will also examine major issues of his practical science including his theories of moral and intellectual habituation and virtue, his definitions of political life and the classification of political regimes, his moral-psychological accounts of fear, anger, desire, pity, and shame, and his political-psychological conceptions of rhetoric, mass media, and fine art.

Required Texts

The Basic Works of Aristotle, edited by R. McKeon (New York: Modern Library, 2001) ISBN-10: 0375757996 (available at UCSD bookstore).

Aristotle: Protrepticus, edited and translated by D. S. Hutchinson and M. R. Johnson (Handout)

Objectives

- Learn to cite, interpret, and criticize the primary works of Aristotle in English translation both in discussion and in writing.
- Survey major topics and problems in the philosophy of Aristotle, including his logic, physics, and ethics.
- Devise and execute an original research project on Aristotle using both primary and secondary sources.
- Observe or participate in active professional research in the field of Aristotle Studies.
- Appreciate the seminal influence of Aristotle on the subsequent development of Western philosophy and science and learn to relate Aristotle to current or perennial problems in the field of philosophy.

Schedule of Readings and DEADLINES

- January 5 Aristotle's Life, Works, and Division of Philosophy
 - Basic Works, pp. v-xxi (the introduction).
 - Handouts: biographical timeline; how to cite the Aristotle Corpus; an overview of the Aristotle Corpus.
- January 7 The Exhortation to Philosophy
 - Protrepticus (introductory material and the whole dialogue).
 - Due: Personal Information form
- January 12 Metaphilosophy: The History of Experience, Art, Science, and Wisdom
 - Metaphysics I.1-10
- January 14 Logic: Propositions, and Contradictions
 - On Interpretation 1-9 and Sophistical Refutations 1 and 34
- January 19 Logic: Syllogisms, and Dialectical Reasoning
 - Prior Analytics I.1 and 1.4 and Topics I.1 and Rhetoric I.1.
 - Due: Hard Copy of Scholar Assignment!
- January 21 Epistemology: Scientific Knowledge, Explanation, and Demonstrative Reasoning
 - Prior Analytics I.30 and Posterior Analytics I.1-3 and II.11 and 14-19
- January 26 Physics: Natural Science
 - Physics I.1, II.1-2. Meteorology I.1, 338a20-339a10
 - Due: Revision and Electronic Copy of Scholar Assignment
- January 28 Physics: Causality, Luck, Spontaneity, Art, and Necessity
 - Physics II.3-9
 - Due: Research Proposal

February 2 Cosmology and Meteorology

• On the Heavens I.1-12; II.13-14; Meteorology III.2-3.

February 4 Biology and Physiology

- Parts of Animals I.1-5
- Recommended: *HA* 1.1, *PA* 2.1, *GA* 1.1, 5.1

February 9 Vitalogy: Vegetation and Sensation

• On the Soul I.1, II.1-12

February 11 Psychology: Imagination, Thinking, and Self-Motion

- On the Soul III.1-13
- Due: Research Essay Draft 1

February 16 Psychology: Memory and Dreaming

• On Memory and Recollection, On Dreams, On Prophesying by Dreams

February 18 Ethics: Eudaimonia and Intellectual Virtue

- Nicomachean Ethics I.1-13 and VI.1-13 and X.6-8
- Due: Critique of Draft 1

February 23 Ethics: Moral Habituation, Character Formation, and Virtue

• Nicomachean Ethics II.1-9 and III.6-12

February 25 Ethics: Moral Psychology, Emotions, and Rhetoric

- Nicomachean Ethics IV.5 and 9, Rhetoric I.2 and II.1-6
- Due: Research Essay Draft 2

March 1 Political Science: Justice, Politics, and Economics

• Nicomachean Ethics V; Politics I.1-13

March 3 Political Science: Classification of Constitutions

• Nicomachean Ethics X.9; Politics III.6-13, IV.1-13

March 8 Political Science: Mass Media and Fine Art

• *Poetics* 1-26

March 10 Part I of Student Research Conference

• Due: Research Essay Final Draft!

• Due: Research Handout and Presentation

March 15 Part II of Student Research Conference

• Note that class meets from 3-6pm and attendance is mandatory

• Due: Final Examination