

古希腊哲学研究  
Aristotle: *De Motu Animalium* (2020 Spring)

Instructors: 程炜 (cheng.wei@pku.edu.cn)

Meeting times: Tuesday, 18: 40-21: 30

Room: 老化学楼 227

### 1. AIM AND SCOPE

This seminar is designed to introduce Aristotle's treatise *De Motu Animalium* ('On the Motion of Animals'). This is important text in the history of philosophy in which Aristotle develops a general theory of animal self-movement, aiming to explain how the soul of animals sets the body in motion, especially how the soul makes animal's voluntary activities possible. As a result, this treatise provides an illuminating perspective on both Aristotle's philosophy of action and the relations that hold across his physics, psychology, and zoology. In this seminar, we will go through the main body of the *De Motu* and related excerpts from other works of Aristotle. Based on a close reading of the text, we shall discuss topics which include, but not limited to, the model of animal motion, desire, practical syllogism, locomotive soul, and *pneuma*. Classical and recent scholarship on Aristotle's zoology as well as philosophy of action and mind will be addressed and critically assessed. This course presupposes a basic knowledge of ancient philosophy, especially Aristotle's theory of the soul. Although ancient Greek is not required for the course, but students are encouraged to engage with the new critical edition of Primavesi if they can.

### 2. REQUIRED TEXT

Text and Translation:

\* Nussbaum, M. C. (1978), *Aristotle's De Motu Animalium*, Princeton; reprinted with corrections 1985.

\* Primavesi, O. / Corcilius, K., (2018), *Aristoteles. De motu animalium / Über die Bewegung der Lebewesen*, Hamburg.

There are some additional readings which are either research articles/chapters (see below). They will be uploaded in the website of our seminar or distributed as handouts.

### 3. POLICIES AND EVALUATION

Final grades will be determined by two components:

—Participation 30% (presentation, question-raising, response, discussion, etc.)

—Final Papers 70%: Research Essay or Commentary (ca. 8000 words, ddl.: 15<sup>th</sup> July)

Formal requirement:

—1.5 spaced, character 12, a unified form of reference (Chicago, APA, or others)

—Greek authors and works should be referred to by the abbreviations used in Liddell-Scott-Jones or *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (4<sup>th</sup> edition)

—Journals should be referred to by the abbreviations used in *L'Année Philologique*, in italics.

**Academic Honesty:** You are responsible for understanding PKU policies on academic integrity. Not knowing the rules, misunderstanding the rules, running out of time, submitting “the wrong draft”, or being overwhelmed with multiple demands, *etc.* are not acceptable excuses. In particular, there are no excuses for failure to uphold academic integrity. **Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. And the penalty for it will be very severe.** To support your learning about academic citation rules, please read ‘Avoiding Plagiarism’ in H. Ramsey: *The Little, Brown Handbook*, Pearson, pp. 629-38 or visit *Oxford Academic Good Practice: A Practical Guide*

#### 4. SCHEDULE

##### **Week 1 Introduction**

André Laks (forthcoming): “Articulating the *De Motu Animalium*. The Place of the Treatise within the *Corpus Aristotelicum*”

Andrea Falcon (2017): “The Place of the *De Motu Animalium* in Aristotle's Natural Philosophy”. In: *Reading Aristotle*, Leiden, 215–235.

##### **Week 2-3 (MA 1-2)**

Rapp, Ch. (forthcoming): “The Inner Resting Point and the Common Cause of Animal motion”

##### **Weeks 3-5 (MA 3-5)**

Coope, U. (forthcoming) ‘De Motu Animalium 2–3’

Morison, B. (forthcoming) ‘De Motu Animalium 4–5’

##### **Week 6 (MA 6)**

Corcilius, K.(forthcoming): “Resuming Discussion of the Common Cause of Animal Self-Motion: How Does the Soul Move the Body?”

##### **Weeks 7-8 (MA 7)**

Cooper, J. (forthcoming): “The Role of Thought in Animal Voluntary Self-locomotion”

De Groot, J. (2008), ‘Dunamis and the Science of Mechanics: Aristotle on Animal Motion’, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 46, 43-67.

##### **Week 9 (MA 8)**

Nussbaum (1978) Interpretative Essay 3

Malcolm Schofield (2011): “Phantasia in *De motu animalium*”. In Michael Pakaluk & Giles Pearson (eds.), *Moral Psychology and Human Action in Aristotle*, Oxford.

R.J. Hankinson (forthcoming) “*De Motu Animalium*, Chapters 7 and 8

##### **Weeks 10-11 (MA 9-10)**

Berryman, S. (2002), ‘Aristotle on *Pneuma* and Animal Self-Motion’, *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 23, 85-97.

Gregoric P. (forthcoming) “*De Motu Animalium*, Chapters 9 and 10”

##### **Weeks 12 (MA 11)**

Pierre-Marie Morel(forthcoming), ‘Voluntary or Not? The Physiological Perspective: *De Motu Animalium* 11’

### **Weeks 13 (review)**

Corcilius, Klaus / Gregoric, Pavel: 'Aristotle's Model of Animal Motion', *Phronesis* 2013.

### **Weeks 14 ('the locomotive soul')**

*De Anima* 3.9-11

Whiting, J. E. (2002), "Locomotive Soul: The Parts of Soul in Aristotle's Scientific Works", *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, 22, 141–20

Rapp, C. (forthcoming), 'Joints and Movers in the Cliffhanger Passage at the end of Aristotle, *De Anima* III.10',

### **Weeks 15 ("practical syllogism")**

Corcilius, K. (2008a): "Two Jobs for Aristotle's Practical Syllogism?", *History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis* 11 (1), 163-184

—2008b: "Praktische Syllogismen bei Aristoteles," *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, 3/2008: 247-297.

### **Weeks 16 (open)**

#### **5. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Buddensiek, F. (2009), 'Aristoteles' Zirbeldrüse? Zum Verhältnis von Seele und *pneuma* in Aristoteles' Theorie der Ortsbewegung der Lebewesen', in D. Frede and B. Reis (eds.), *Body and Soul in Ancient Philosophy*, Berlin-New York, 309-29.

Corcilius, Klaus: *Streben und Bewegung. Aristoteles' Theorie der animalischen Ortsbewegung*. Berlin 2008.

Corcilius, Klaus / Gregoric, Pavel: 'Aristotle's Model of Animal Motion', *Phronesis* 2013.

Fernandez, Patricio A. (2014). "Reasoning and the Unity of Aristotle's Account of Animal Motion". *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 47:151-203.

Falcon 2017: Andrea Falcon. 'The Place of the *De Motu Animalium* in Aristotle's Natural Philosophy', in Wians/Polansky 2017, 215–35.

Furley, David: 'Self-movers', in: *Aristotle on the Mind and the Senses*, in: Lloyd/Owen 1978, 165-179.

Frampton, M. (1991), 'Aristotle's Cardiocentric Model of Animal Locomotion', *Journal of the History of Biology*, 24: 291-330.

Gregoric, P. and M. Kuhar (2013), 'Aristotle's Physiology of Animal Motion: On *Neura* and Muscles', *Apeiron*.

James G. Lennox & Mary Louise Gill (eds.), *Self-Motion: From Aristotle to Newton*. Princeton University Press

Nussbaum, Martha C. 1983: 'The Common Explanation of Animal Motion', in: *Zweifelhaftes im Corpus Aristotelicum, Akten des 9. Symposium Aristotelicum*, ed. P. Moraux, J. Wiesner, Berlin, 1983, 116-156

Preus 1981: *Aristotle and Michael of Ephesus: On the Movement and Progression of Animals*. Translated, with Introduction and Notes by Anthony Preus. Hildesheim/New York.

Shields, Christopher: "The Peculiar Motion of Aristotelian Souls," *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume LXXXI* (2007), 1-23.

Pearson, Giles. 2012. *Aristotle on Desire*. Cambridge.