

古希腊哲学原著 Aristotle's *De Anima*
2019 Fall

Instructors: 程炜
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Meeting times: Monday, 18: 40-21: 30
Room: 老化学楼 227
Office hours: 19: 00-20:00, 老化学楼 328

1. AIM AND SCOPE

This seminar is designed to introduce the students to Aristotle's rich but intricate treatise *De Anima*. Students will learn how to read, how to make sense of, and how to evaluate Aristotle's psychology and related topics, in particular his view on perception, broadly understood. We will go through the main body of the *De Anima*. Based on a close reading of the text, we shall discuss topics which include, but not limited to, hylomorphism, the nature and division of the soul, the nature of sense perception, cognitive capacities, desire, common sense, and *phantasia*. Relevant sources in Aristotle and other ancient authors will also be explored selectively. Ancient commentators can be taken into account according to the interest and requirement of the anticipants. Of course, recent scholarly debates on Aristotle's theory of mind will be addressed as well. This course presupposes a basic knowledge of ancient philosophy, especially on Aristotle. Although ancient Greek is not necessary for the course, but students are encouraged to engage with original texts if they can.

This seminar aims to

- provide a general introduction to Aristotle's psychology as well as a survey, analysis and assessment of many related topics;
- penetrate some key issues in the *De Anima* (perception, desire, *phantasia*, mind-body problem etc.) with historical and critical depth;
- display significant influence of Aristotle in later Ancient philosophy, in particular in the ancient tradition of commentators;
- reveal the philosophical richness of Aristotle's thought which contributes to or provokes contemporary philosophy;
- introduce students to the currently available tools for Aristotle and ancient philosophy;
- provide students with the opportunity to develop and to enhance their skills of analysis, presentation, and writing in the field of ancient philosophy.

In addition, we will invite prominent scholars in this field—Victor Caston (Michigan), Philip van der Eijk (Berlin), and Christoph Helmig (Cologne) are in the list—to lecture on the ancient thoughts on psychology/biology in the course or as supplement programs.

- An international conference on self and cognition in ancient and medieval philosophy will take place in November.

Students will:

- identify and explain the philosophical vocabulary of Aristotle's philosophy of mind;
- employ professional resources and bibliographical tools;
- explicate and assess key philosophical doctrines of the *De Anima*, particularly concerning the nature of perception;
- get a sense of Aristotle's psychology in their own historical and cultural context as well as some central features of its reception and transformation in later periods;
- critically analyze the cogency of philosophical argumentation on central issues.

2. REQUIRED TEXT

Translation:

*Shields, Christopher, 2016, *Aristotle's De Anima*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Other Texts and Translations

Förster, A. 1912, *Aristotelis De anima libri tres*. Budapest: Academia Litterarum.

Jannone, A./ Barbotin, E. 1966. *Aristote, De l'âme*, Les Belles Lettres, Paris 1994.

Rodier, G. 1900, *Aristote: Traité de l'âme*. 2 vols. Paris: Ernest Leroux.

Ross, W. D., ed. 1956. *Aristotelis De anima*. Oxford: Clarendon (OCT)

There are some additional readings which are either research articles/chapters or ancient commentaries (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 3 components:

—Participation 20% (presentation, question-raising, response, discussion, etc.)

—Reading Quizzes 10 %

—Final Papers 70%: Research Article or Commentary (around 8000-10000 words, graduate student); Book Review (around 6000 words, undergraduate student), in Chinese or English

The due-dates for the paper

08th Jan. 2020, 11: 59 pm

15th Feb. 2020, 11: 59 pm

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* (4th edition)

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

Participation: You are expected to prepare for class in advance of classroom discussions by reading and studying assigned materials before class (usually one chapter of the source and one research paper or book chapter, sometimes with materials in handouts). I do not expect complete mastery of the readings. Given that many of the readings will be difficult and challenging, it is acceptable not to immediately understand everything you read. However, you are also encouraged to come to class with questions and comments about the readings. That is to say, everyone should try their best to make substantial comments and be a positive contributor to the overall conversations.

Reading Quizzes: There will be about ten reading quizzes throughout the term. These will consist of a few questions to see whether you have done the reading. The questions will be simple and factual.

Final Papers: The papers will be your chance to practice your writing skill and develop your thoughts at greater length. For those who want to write a research article should first discuss with me in advance about your topic and bibliography. Only those who can read Greek are allowed to select the form of commentary as an alternative, the text in question should be a passage from Aristotle's *De Anima*. Undergraduate students should write a book review. The books in question are in the list of the bibliography below. Papers should be submitted both as a printed copy and an electrical version.

Additional Explanation:

1) If you have good reason for being unable to submit work by a deadline, you must come discuss

this with me well in advance (**at least one week**) so that we can agree on an rearrangement. You will not be able to contact me at the last minute about this. If we do not agree to a new deadline, you will lose marks (**10% per day** – including weekends – for essays; late responses and missed quizzes will get no marks at all). The only exceptions to this will be for serious and well-documented emergencies.

2) For those who decide to write a research article, please submit **a detailed outline of the paper with key bibliography (two pages)** in advance. If you have not yet read Jim Pryor' *Guidelines* on writing a philosophy paper. Please read it before you start writing. The grade will depend on your selection of the topic, your clarity of your presentation and on the quality of your argument. A mere summary – even if completely on point – won't get you above C.

For those who want to write a commentary, please hand in **an example of your work (two pages)** in advance. *Oxford Guidance on Commentaries and Gobbets* (Faculty of Classics) can help you get a sense of what a commentary should be. The grade will mainly depend on your understanding of the text and the quality of the research you have done.

Undergraduate students, if you do know how to write a book review, NDPR Guidelines may be useful (<https://ndpr.nd.edu/reviewers-guidelines/>). You can also consult E. Battistella: *How To Write A Compelling Book Review* in OUPblog or 荣新江: “书评与札记”, in 《学术训练与学术规范》.

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*

Checklist for Grading:

Organization: It should be difficult to (a) find **irrelevant text** in your paper and/or (b) rewrite your paper **using fewer words**. You should have a proper introduction and conclusion.

References: Scholarly and consistent (*cf.* the formal requirement above); use footnotes.

Focused Purpose: You cannot achieve much in a relatively limited work.

Proper Methods: Avoid anachronism and/or other pitfalls; use analysis, evaluation, explanation, reconstruction, example, thought experiment, etc.

Free of Bias and Distortion: Remember the principle of charity.

Clarity: It should be difficult for me to **mis**understand you; avoid long sentences and big words.

Cogence: It should be difficult for me to **dis**agree with you.

Originality: You can get an A without being original.

4. SCHEDULE

The course schedule, as the course progresses, may be revised. If it is, I will notify all enrolled students via email or Wechat group.

Week 1 Introduction

Caston, Victor. 2009. ‘Aristotle’s psychology’. In *A Companion to Ancient Philosophy*. edited by Mary Louise Gill and Pierre Pellegrin, 316–46. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Irwin, T.H. (1991), “Aristotle’s Philosophy of Mind” in Stephen Everson (ed.) *Companions to Ancient Thought 2: Psychology*, Cambridge, 1991, pp. 56 – 83.

Weeks 2-5 The Stage Setting of Aristotle’s Project (DA 1)

Carter, Jason W. (2019). *Aristotle on Earlier Greek Psychology: The Science of Soul*. Cambridge.

Weeks 5-6 Aristotle's Definition of the Soul (DA 2.1-4)

Ackrill, J. 'Aristotle's Definition of psychê', in J. Ackrill, *Essays on Plato and Aristotle*

Heinaman, R. "Aristotle and the Mind-Body Problem." *Phronesis* 35 (1990) 83-102.

Menn, S. (2002), "Aristotle's Definition of Soul and the Programme of the *De Anima*", *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, vol. XXII, pp. 83 – 139.

Modrak, Deborah K. W. 1987. *Aristotle: The power of perception*. Chicago.

Shields, C. "The First Functionalist." in *Historical foundations of cognitive science*, J-C. Smith, ed. (Dordrecht: 1990) 19-33.

Whiting, J. 'Living Bodies', in M. Nussbaum and A Rorty (eds), *Essays on Aristotle's de Anima*.

Weeks 7-12: Senses and Sense Perception (DA 2.5-12)

Broadie, S.W.(1992) "Aristotle's Perceptual Realism." in *Ancient Minds*, J. Ellis, ed. Spindel Conf. Proc. [= SJP Supp. vol. 31] 137-159.

Burnyeat, Myles. (1995). 'Is an Aristotelian philosophy of mind still credible? (A draft)'. In *Essays on Aristotle's De anima*. Edited by M. C. Nussbaum and A. O. Rorty, 15–26.

Burnyeat, M. (2002), "*De Anima* II 5", *Phronesis*, vol. XLVII, no. 1, pp. 28 – 90.

Caston, V. (2004), "The Spirit and the Letter: Aristotle on Perception" in Salles (ed.) *Metaphysics, Soul and Ethics: Themes from the Work of Richard Sorabji*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 245 – 320.

Ebert, Th., (1983). 'Aristotle on what is done in perceiving'. *Zeitschrift für Philosophische Forschung* 37:181–198

Everson, S. "Proper Sensibles and *Kath' Auta* Causes." *Phronesis* 40 (1995) 265-292.

Johansen, Thomas K. (1998). *Aristotle on the Sense-Organs*. Cambridge.

Lorenz, H. (2007), "The Assimilation of Sense to Sense-Object in Aristotle", *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, vol. XXXIII, pp. 179 – 220.

Modrak, D.K. (1998), "Sense Organs: Matter and Function." *Apeiron* 31, 351-362.

Silverman, A. (1989), "Color and Color-Perception in Aristotle's *de Anima*." *AP* 9, 271-292.

Sorabji, R. (2001), "Aristotle on Sensory Process and Intentionality: A Reply to Myles Burnyeat", in D. Perler (ed.), *Ancient and Medieval Theories of Intentionality*, Brill, Leiden, pp. 49 – 61.

Stephen, E. (1998). *Aristotle on perception*. Oxford.

Weeks 13-16 phantasia, common sense, and consciousness (DA 3.1-3)

Cashdollar, S. (1973). Aristotle's account of incidental perception. *Phronesis* 18:156–175.

Caston, V., (1996) 'Why Aristotle Needs Imagination', *Phronesis* 41, , pp. 20-55

Caston, V., (2002). Aristotle on consciousness. *Mind* 111:751–815.

Gregoric, P., (2007). *Aristotle on the common sense*. Oxford: Clarendon.

Frede, D. 'The Cognitive Role of Phantasia in Aristotle', in M. Nussbaum and A Rorty.

Kosman, L. Aryeh. (1975). 'Perceiving that we perceive'. *Philosophical Review* 84:499–519.

Schofield, M. (1995) 'Aristotle on the imagination', in M. Nussbaum and A Rorty.

Wedin, Michael (1988). *Mind and Imagination in Aristotle*. Yale University Press.

5. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Ancient Commentary and Related Treatises.

The standard collection of texts remains *Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca*, ed. H.

Diels (Berlin: Reimer, 1882-1909), hereafter CAG. What follow are limited to the English translations, in particular those under the editorship of Richard Sorabji.

Alexander of Aphrodisias,

—, *On the Soul* (Part 1), V. Caston (trans.), Bristol: Bristol Classical Press, 2012.

—, *The De anima of Alexander of Aphrodisias*, A. P. Fotinis (trans.), Washington, D.C.: University Press of America, 1979.

Supplement to "On the Soul", R. W. Sharples (trans.), London, 2004.

Philoponus,

—, *On Aristotle on the Intellect*, W. Charlton, and F. Bossier (trans.), London, 1991.

—, *On Aristotle on the Soul 1.1–2*, Ph. van der Eijk (trans.), London 2005.

—, *On Aristotle on the Soul 1.3–5*, Ph. van der Eijk (trans.), London, 2006.

—, *On Aristotle on the Soul 2.1–6*, W. Charlton (trans.), London, 2005.

—, *On Aristotle on the Soul 2.7–12*, W. Charlton (trans.), London, 2005.

—, *On Aristotle on the soul 3.1–8*, W. Charlton (trans.), London, 2000.

—, *On Aristotle on the Soul 3.9–13*, W. Charlton (trans.), London, 2000.

[Simplicius],

On Aristotle's on the Soul 1.1–2.4, J. O. Urmson, P. Lautner (trans.), Ithaca, 1996.

—, *On Aristotle's on the Soul 2.5–12*, C. Steel, C. J. O. Urmson (trans.), London, 1997.

—, *On Aristotle's on the Soul 3.1–5*, H. J. Blumenthal, (trans.), London, 1995.

—, *On Aristotle's on the Soul 3.6–13*, C. Steel (trans.), Bristol: Bristol Classical Press, 2013.

Themistius,

On Aristotle's on the Soul, R. B. Todd (trans.), London, 1996.

2. Sources, Translations, and Commentaries

Aquinas, Thomas, 1999, *A Commentary in Aristotle's De anima*, tr. by Robert Pasnau, New Haven: Yale University Press.

Barnes, Schofield, and Sorabji, 1979. *Articles on Aristotle, 4. Psychology and Aesthetics*. New York.

Hamlyn, D. W., 1968 [1993], *Aristotle De anima, Books II and III*, Oxford.

Hicks, R. D., 1907, *Aristotle, De Anima*, Cambridge.

Nussbaum, Martha C., 1978, *Aristotle's De motu animalium*, Princeton.

Sorabji, Richard, 1972, *Aristotle on Memory*, Providence: Brown University Press.

Reeve, C. D. C. 2017. *Aristotle, De Anima*. Indianapolis.

Ross, W. D., 1955, *Aristotle: Parva Naturalia*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Ross, W.D, 1961, *Aristotle, De anima, edited, with introduction and commentary*, Oxford.

3. Second Literature

Everson, Stephan, 1997, *Aristotle on Perception*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Frede, D. and Reis, B., 2009, *Body and soul in ancient philosophy*. Berlin and New York.

Freudenthal, Gad. 1995. *Aristotle's theory of material substance*. Oxford: Clarendon.

Polansky, Ronald, 2007, *Aristotle's De Anima*, Cambridge.

Jiménez, Erick Raphael 2017. *Aristotle's Concept of Mind*. Cambridge.

Johansen, Thomas K. 2012. *The powers of Aristotle's soul*. Oxford: Clarendon.

Kalderon, M. E. 2015. *Form Without Matter: Empedocles and Aristotle on Color Perception*, Oxford.

Lloyd, G.E.R. and G.E.L. Owen (eds.), 1978, *Aristotle on Mind and the Senses*, Cambridge.

Lorenz, Hendrik. 2006. *The brute within: Appetitive desire in Plato and Aristotle*. Oxford

Nussbaum, M. C., and Rorty, A. O. eds. 1995. *Essays on Aristotle's De anima*. Oxford.

Marmodoro, Anna, 2014, *Aristotle on Perceiving Objects*, Oxford.

Modrak, Deborah, 1987, *Aristotle: The Power of Perception*, Chicago.

Moss, Jessica. 2012. *Aristotle on the apparent good: Perception, phantasia, thought, and desire*. Oxford

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

Van Riel, G / Destrée P. (eds.), 2009. *Ancient Perspectives on Aristotle's De anima*. Leuven.