This course deals with ancient Greek philosophy for the period 600 BC to 322 BC.

The major sections of the course deal with the 1) The earliest Greek philosophers, the so-called Pre-Socratic philosophers, who focused primarily on the universe and the nature of reality. The thought up just about every alternative in metaphysics 2) The Sophists, itinerant teachers and Socrates, who “brought philosophy down from the heavens to the earth, but focusing on ethics and political philosophy, developing the method of dialogical inquiry, “The Socratic Method,” and bring logical reasoning to ethics and politics 3) Plato, who discussed reality, knowledge, ethics and politics as well as cosmology in an amazing literary style, and, finally 4) Aristotle, who systematized logic, classification of animals, and who wrote systematic expositions concerning reality, knowledge, ethics and politics.

Text: *Greek Philosophy: Thales to Aristotle (Readings in the History of Philosophy)*


- ISBN-10: 0029004950

You can use older editions, if you find them for sale on line, which have the same selections minus three short additions in the new edition, with different pages for the readings.

There will be a short paper (10%), two longer papers (20%), an in class midterm (15%), a test during final examination period (20%), and paragraph reactions to assignments (15%).