

Aristotle on Perception and the Intellectual Virtues

Syllabus

I. Introduction: Varieties of Virtue and of Knowledge in Aristotle

Metaphysics VI.1; *Nicomachean Ethics* I.7, VI.1, 2-4, X.7-8

II. Perception in Aristotle: The Legacy of his Predecessors

Generation of Animals I.23, *De Anima* III.3-4, *Metaphysics* IV.5, Plato, *Theaetetus* 184-187; Selections from Democritus, Theophrastus, Alexander (to be distributed)

III. *Episteme* and Perception in the *Analytics*

M. Frede, "Aristotle's Rationalism"

T. Irwin, *Aristotle's First Principles* (Selections)

M. Burnyeat, "Aristotle on Understanding Knowledge"

_____, "*Episteme*"

J. Lesher, "On Aristotelian *Episteme* as Understanding"

R. Bolton, "*Episteme*: Aristotle's Project in the *Analytics*"

IV. Perception, *Episteme* and *Techne* in *Posterior Analytics* II.19

D. Bronstein, "The Origin and Aim of *Posterior Analytics* II.19"

R. Bolton, "Epistemology and Psychology in Aristotle's *APo* II.19"V.

V. Perception, Linguistic Knowledge and the Acquisition of *Episteme*

D. Demoss and D. Devereux, "Essence, Existence and Nominal Definition in Aristotle's *Posterior Analytics* II. 8-10"

- D. Charles, *Aristotle on Meaning and Essence* (selections)
D. Bronstein, *Aristotle on Knowledge and Learning: The Posterior Analytics* (selections)
R. Bolton, "The Search for Principles in Aristotle's *APo* II and *GA* I"

VI. Perception, *Techne* and *Empeiria* in Aristotle

- P-S. Hasper and J. Yurdin, "Between Perception and Scientific Knowledge: Aristotle's Account of Experience"
H. Lorenz and B. Morison, "Aristotle's Empiricist Theory of Doxastic Knowledge"
R. Bolton, "*Techne* and *Empeiria*: Aristotle's Contribution to the Tradition"

VII. Perception and *Phronesis*: Aristotle on Moral Wisdom

- G. Lawrence, "Aiming Well in Aristotle's Ethics"
J. Moss, *Aristotle on the Apparent Good* (selections)
R. Bolton, "*Phronesis*: Aristotle's Account of Moral Wisdom"

VIII. Perception, *Nous* and Rational Insight in Aristotle

- M. Frede, H. Lorenz and B. Morison, J. Moss (as above)
R. Bolton, "Aristotle on Intuition"

The chief objective of this course will be to advance the ability of students to access and to understand the highly influential thought of Aristotle on a related group of central, connected philosophical issues in epistemology, philosophy of mind and philosophy of science; and also in moral and practical philosophy. A series of short papers will be assigned to help develop this ability.