

**Title and Code of Course: An Interactive Introduction into the History of Greek Philosophy
ERPB-BSB 9443**

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Credit Point Value: 6	Number of Lessons per Week: 2	Type of Course: Seminar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination <input type="checkbox"/> In-Class Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Course Description:

The course aims to offer a brief introduction into the history of ancient Greek philosophy from the Presocratic philosophers (6th century – mid-5th century BC) until the age of the Neoplatonists of the 5th century AD. The interactive lectures and seminars will include a selection of texts and excerpts from various ancient thinkers like Thales, Heraclitus, Empedocles, Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius and others. The analysis of selected and previously read passages will be followed by discussion. The evaluation will be based on a home-written essay of ca. 6000 characters.

Bibliography:

G. S. Kirk – J. F. Raven: *The Presocratic Philosophers. A Critical History with a Selection of Texts* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1957)

<https://archive.org/details/presocraticphilo033229mbp>

The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy: <http://www.iep.utm.edu/>

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: <http://plato.stanford.edu/>

Heraclitus' fragments: <http://www.heraclitusfragments.com/index.html>

Selected fragments by Presocratics (including Thales, Anaximander, Anaximenes, Pythagoras, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Zeno of Elea, Anaxagoras, Empedocles, Leucippus and Democritus):

<https://www.mnsu.edu/philosophy/Presocratic%20fragments.pdf>

Plato: *The Apology of Socrates* <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html>

Plato: *Republic*, Book VII <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/republic.8.vii.html>

Plato: *Phaedrus* <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/phaedrus.html>

Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* <http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.1.i.html>

Epicurus: *Letter to Menoecus* <http://classics.mit.edu/Epicurus/menoec.html>

Cleanthes: *Hymn to Zeus* <https://salemcc.instructure.com/courses/121/pages/cleanthes-hymn-to-zeus-c-3rd-century-b-dot-c-e>

Epictetus: *Enchiridion* <http://classics.mit.edu/Epictetus/epicench.html>

Marcus Aurelius: *Meditations* <http://classics.mit.edu/Antoninus/meditations.1.one.html>

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives of Eminent Philosophers*

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0258%3Abook%3D1%3Achapter%3Dprologue>

Plotinus: *Enneads* <http://classics.mit.edu/Plotinus/enneads.html>

Socrates Scholasticus, *Church History* Book VII, Chapter 15

<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/26017.htm> (on Hypatia of Alexandria)

Sources on Hypatia: http://plato2051.tripod.com/hypatia_of_alexandria.htm

Rankin, H.D., *Sophists, Socratics and Cynics* (New Jersey: Barnes & Noble, 1983)