

# PHIL 301 A01 (12448) | PLATO

Fall 2020, University of Victoria

Department of Philosophy

Course website: available at <https://bright.uvic.ca/d2l/home/7097>

## Instructor & Contact Information

Dr. Clifford Roberts ([cliffordroberts@uvic.ca](mailto:cliffordroberts@uvic.ca))

Office hours: Mon-Tue-Wed 3-4pm (or by appt.; sign-up is required)

Office: CLE B318

## Course Description

This course surveys some of the work of the ancient Greek philosopher, Plato (428/7-348/7 BCE).

A student of Socrates and a teacher of Aristotle, Plato is one of the most influential and important figures in the history of Western thought. The mathematician and philosopher A. N. Whitehead

remarked that "the safest general characterization of the European philosophical tradition is that it consists of a series of footnotes to Plato."

- (2) Quote and Comments  
Value: 15% per assignment, 3 assignments (total value = 45%)  
Length: 700 words (per assignment)  
Assignment: Students will be assigned several passages from the text, of which they must pick one and submit their explanation of the passage online. The assignment will be made available 1-2 weeks before the due date.  
Due dates: *see course schedule.*
- (3) Essay  
Value: 25%  
Length: 1500 words

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is intellectual honesty and responsibility for academic work that the student submits, whether individual or group work. It involves commitment to the values of honesty, trust, and responsibility. It is expected that students will respect these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research, and service. Therefore, plagiarism and other acts against academic integrity are serious academic offences.

### *The responsibility of the institution*

Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

### *The responsibility of the student*

Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If the student is unsure about the standards

Accessibility

<i>Phaedo</i>	
<u>Week 3:</u> Sep 21-27	<i>Why Not Fear Death? 3 Arguments for Immortality of Soul</i> Reading: <i>Phaedo</i> 59c-84b
<u>Week 4:</u> Sep 28-Oct 4	<i>Critiques &amp; a Fourth Argument for Immortality</i> Reading: <i>Phaedo</i> 84c-118
<i>Republic</i>	
<u>Week 5:</u> Oct 5-11	<i>The Problem of Justice &amp; How to Solve It</i> Reading: <i>Republic</i> I-II **1st Quote and Comment Due Oct 5th**
<u>Week 6:</u> Oct 12-18	<i>The Kallipolis in/ &amp; the Soul</i> Reading: <i>Republic</i> III-IV
<u>Week 7-8:</u> Oct 19-Nov 1	<i>What Do the Philosopher-Guardians Know?</i> Reading: <i>Republic</i> V-VII **2nd Quote and Comment Due Oct 19th**
<u>Week 9:</u> Nov 2-8	<i>Five Cities &amp; Five Souls: Why the Just Life is Best</i> Reading: <i>Republic</i> VIII-IX
<u>Week 10:</u> Nov 9-15	<i>Imitation &amp; the Dangers of Art</i> Reading: <i>Republic</i> X **3rd Quote and Comment Sheet Due Nov 9th**
<i>Symposium</i>	
<u>Week 11:</u> Nov 16-22	<i>What is Erôs? 5 Answers</i> Reading: <i>Symposium</i> 172a-198a

Week 12-13: Nov 23-Dec 6

*A Philosophical Approach to Erôs*  
Reading: *Symposium* 198b-223d  
\*\*Essay Due Dec 6\*\*