

PHIL 4391: THE GOOD LIFE  
**SPRING 2022**

## Mentor

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Name: Dr. Badiola  
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Office Hours: MW: 9:00AM-1:00PM; others by appointment

Do not hesitate to contact me during regular office hours. You can visit my local or virtual office, call me or send me an email. If you plan to meet me virtually, please let me know in advance. Also, I will be happy to schedule an appointment at a different time if those offered above do not work for you. Please allow me 24 hours to respond to your emails before you feel abandoned. I will be happy to assist you with any difficulty you may have regarding the course or any question about a particular issue.

## Course Description

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This research course explores the concept of the good life in Greek philosophy from Plato to the Medieval times. The course will trace the concept in Plato, Aristotle, Stoicism, Epicureanism and skepticism, and in Aquinas, as representative of Christian philosophy. The course will also provide some fundamental guidance to help with the production of a research paper.

## Course Objectives

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1. To gain understanding of the concept of the good life in some fundamental Greek and Christian philosophers
2. To critically assess and discuss philosophical arguments and theories
3. To develop the ability to responsibly think and write about philosophical problems in a clear and a coherent manner

## Student Learning Outcomes (IDEA)

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Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Question 4: develop specific skills, competencies and points of view required by professional philosophers who teach philosophy
- Question 8: Develop skills in expressing yourself orally or in writing
- Question 11: Acquire skills in critical analysis by learning how to critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
- Question 13: Become familiarized with relevant philosophical concerns and with the way central figures in philosophy have thought about those concerns

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### Course Requirements

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In addition to weekly meetings, in which the student will meet with the research director to discuss the assigned readings, the student will keep an intellectual journal throughout the semester. Each journal entry should record ideas provoked by the weekly discussions and/or the readings. The journal will not only serve as a starting point for the weekly discussions, but also as a venue for critical reflection during the elaboration of the research paper. The last entry should provide a brief exposition of the intellectual journey leading to the final research results, including the selection of topic, the position defended, and the strengths and weaknesses of such position.

### Student Learning Assessment

Assessment Type	Weight as a Percentage
Intellectual Journal	30
Weekly discussions	30
Research Paper	40
Total	100%

### Required Material

- Plato: *The Republic* (Grube, Second Edition); Translated by G. M. A. Grube, revised by C. D. C. Reeve, 1992 - 320 pp.
- Aristotle: *Nicomachean ethics* *Nicomachean Ethics* (Irwin, Third Edition) Translated, with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary, by Terence Irwin, September 2019 - 480 pp.
- Hellenistic Philosophy (Second Edition): *Introductory Readings*, Edited and Translated by Brad Inwood and Lloyd P. Gerson, 1998 - 438 pp.
- Thomas Aquinas: *Summa Contra Gentiles: Book One: God*, Anton Charles Pegis (Translator) (ISBN-10: 026801678X) (ISBN-13: 978-0268016784)

### The Angelo State University Honor Code

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Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the [Student Handbook](#).

In other words, when you submit your work, you claim that the work is yours. If someone else wrote it for you or you got it from someone else (internet, other student's class...), then you are not the author and thus will get a zero for that assignment. Any idea that is not yours should be properly referenced.

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### Title IX

#### **Title IX at Angelo State University:**

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

**Michelle Miller, J.D.**

*Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator*

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

325-942-2022

[michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

**You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).**

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center* at 325-942-2173 or the *ASU Crisis Helpline* at 325-486-6345. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

### Religious Holidays

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A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

### Disabilities

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Please let me know if you have any special need due to any learning disability.

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Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

### Tentative Schedule

The Good Life	Readings and Assignments
I. GREEK PHILOSOPHY <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plato</li><li>Aristotle</li></ul>	<b>Week 1 (1/17)</b> Introduction to the course and expectations
	<b>Week 2 (1/24)</b> Plato
	<b>Week 3 (1/31)</b> Plato
	<b>Week 4 (2/7)</b> Aristotle
	<b>Week 5 (2/14)</b> Aristotle
II. Hellenistic Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Epicureanism</li><li>Stoicism</li><li>Scepticism</li></ul>	<b>Week 6 (2/21)</b> Epicureanism
	<b>Week 7 (2/28)</b> Epicureanism
	<b>Week 8 (3/7)</b> Stoicism
	<b>Week 9 (3/14)</b> <i>Spring Break</i>
	<b>Week 10 (3/21)</b> Stoicism
	<b>Week 11 (3/28)</b> Stoicism
	<b>Week 12 (4/4)</b> Skepticism
	<b>Week 13 (4/11)</b> Skepticism
I. CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aquinas</li></ul>	<b>Week 14 (4/18)</b> Aquinas
	<b>Week 15 (4/25)</b> Aquinas
	<b>Week 16 (5/2)</b> Research paper and Journal discussion

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II. RESEARCH AND METHODS	
III.	<b>Week 17 (5/9)</b> <b>Research paper due</b>