

**Philosophy 3003F: Plato**  
The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Philosophy

**Instructor:** Devin Henry  
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**Class Time:** T 1:30-2:30, Th 12:30-2:30 (TC 304)  
**Office Hours:** T 12:30-1:30, Th 11:30 – 12:30

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is a critical examination of the philosophy of Plato, with special attention to his ethics, epistemology, and metaphysics. Students will engage original texts in translation, including selections from *Euthydemus*, *Hippias Major*, *Gorgias*, *Theaetetus*, and *Sophist*. Although the course is intended for students who wish to examine the philosophy of Plato in detail, it will also be suited for those with a general interest in the history of philosophy, ethics, and metaphysics.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course has two objectives. The first is to give students of philosophy an introduction to the origins and foundations of their discipline, including the problems that define it. The second is to help students develop their ability to read and understand difficult philosophical texts and to reflect on the ideas and arguments they offer us. These are basic skills that every well-rounded philosopher should have. Class discussions and writing assignments are the vehicles for assessing a student's success in these areas.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Plato: Complete Works, ed. John Cooper (Hackett Publishing), ISBN: 0872203492. *Available at the UWO Book Store*

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Paper 1	40% (2,500-3,000 words, due by Oct. 21)
Paper 2	40% (2,500-3,000 words, due by Nov. 25)
Participation	20%