

**Philosophy 3006G**  
**Aristotle: Celebrated Texts**  
**Winter 2016**



Class:  
W 9.30-10.30; F 9.30-11.30  
Talbot College 309

Instructor: John Thorp, StvH 4141  
Email: [jthorp@uwo.ca](mailto:jthorp@uwo.ca)  
Office hours W 10.30-11.20; F 11.30-12.20

### **Course Outline (tentative)**

**Course objectives:** This course undertakes to give students a deepened, but still broad, understanding of Aristotle by means of the careful study of a series of twelve celebrated texts. The subjects of the selected texts will be: the ontology of the *Categories*, the foundations of semantics, the status of future contingents, the four causes, the defense of the Principle of Non-Contradiction, the theory of truth, the definition of soul, the theory of animal reproduction, the refutation of the void, the resolution of Zeno's paradoxes, the nature of mathematics and the object of metaphysics.

**Method of instruction:** class instruction

**Work required:** eight short exegetical exercises (about 1 page) due at various dates throughout the term (20%); one thematic paper (about 3000 words) due in late March (30%); a final exam (40%); participation 10%

**Textbook:** Students will need to have access to the following works of Aristotle: *Categories, de Interpretatione, Physics, de Anima, de Generatione animalium, Metaphysics, Nicomachean Ethics*. Probably the most convenient form in which to have these texts is in *The Complete Works of Aristotle* (2 volumes), ed. J. Barnes, Bollingen Series, Princeton University Press. But other editions and translations are entirely acceptable.

The Department of Philosophy Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://www.uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.