

Spring 2014
PHI 302, Section 01
First Paper Assignment
Prof. Douglas Ficek

Write a paper, six-to-eight pages in length, on one of the following topics. Revise your work carefully, and remember to cite your sources appropriately. Your typed and stapled essay is due at the beginning of class on April 3rd.

1. Plato and Aristotle both write about the ideal state. What is Plato's conception? What is Aristotle's conception? What are the implications of their conceptions for human rights today? Use three additional sources.
2. Cicero and Aquinas both defend natural law. How does Cicero defend it? How does Aquinas defend it? What are the implications of their positions for human rights today? Use three additional sources.
3. Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau all describe some kind of state of nature. How are their descriptions similar? How are they different? What are the implications of their descriptions for human rights today? Use three additional sources.