

Spring 2017
PHIL 2205, Section 01
Second Paper Assignment
Prof. Douglas Ficek

Write a paper, eight pages in length, on one of the following topics – preferably the one that you find the most interesting. Revise your work carefully, and remember to cite your sources correctly using APA, MLA, or Chicago guidelines. Your typed and stapled essay is due on Tuesday, May 9th at 10:00 a.m.

1. Who was Socrates, and what are the key themes in Socratic philosophy? Is Socratic philosophy relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
2. Who were the sophists, and why did Socrates disagree with them? Is this philosophical debate relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
3. As philosophers, what do Socrates and Confucius have in common? What are their differences? Compare and contrast these two thinkers, and use three additional sources in your discussion.
4. Who was Plato, and what are the key themes in Platonic philosophy? Is Platonic philosophy relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
5. What does Plato say about justice in the *Republic*, and what do you make of it? Is this ancient theory of justice relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
6. Who was Aristotle, and what are the key themes in Aristotelian philosophy? Is Aristotelian philosophy relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
7. What does Aristotle say about ethics in the *Nicomachean Ethics*, and what do you make of it? Is this ancient theory of ethics relevant today? Why or why not? Use three additional sources in your discussion.
8. As philosophers, what do Aristotle and Confucius have in common? What are their differences? Compare and contrast these two thinkers, and use three additional sources in your discussion.