

**Fall 2017**  
**PHIL 2215, Section 01**  
**First Paper Assignment**  
**Prof. Douglas Ficek**

*Write a paper, at least six 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 at the beginning of class on Monday, October 16th.*

1. What do the *Upanishads* tell us about human nature? Explain this ancient tradition, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
2. What does Buddhism tell us about human nature? Explain this ancient tradition, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
3. What does Confucianism tell us about human nature? Explain this ancient tradition, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
4. What does Plato tell us about human nature? Explain his ancient perspective, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
5. What does Aristotle tell us about human nature? Explain his ancient perspective, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
6. What does Mengzi tell us about human nature? Explain his ancient perspective, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
7. What does Xunzi tell us about human nature? Explain his ancient perspective, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.
8. What does Christianity tell us about human nature? Explain this ancient tradition, using specifics, and tell me what you think about it. Use three additional sources in your discussion.