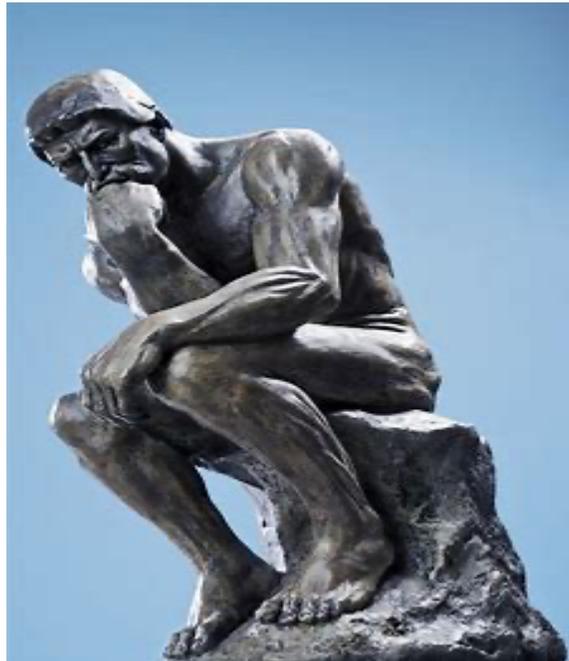# PHIL 70A_80 Ancient Philosophy

Fall 2026
Instructor: Michael Jordan
Online Asynchronous
GE area 3B

What is reality? What makes a life good? What is justice? What can we truly know?

In this course, students explore the origins of philosophy through the ideas of influential thinkers from ancient Greece, Rome, India, and China. By reading and discussing primary philosophical texts, we will examine how different cultures have approached fundamental questions about knowledge, ethics, politics, human nature, and the good life.

Along the way, students will discover how these ancient ideas emerged within historical and cultural contexts and why they continue to shape philosophical thinking today. By the end of the course, students will gain a broad understanding of the major traditions of ancient philosophy and the enduring questions that continue to influence how we think about the world and our place within it.