

## College of Arts – Online Course Outline Template

Course Code:	Section:	Semester:
PHIL *4400x6930	01	F16
Course Title:		
Plato (the trilogy: <i>Theaetetus</i> , <i>Sophist</i> , and <i>Statesman</i> )		
Instructor:		
K.Dorter		
<p>Brief course Synopsis:</p> <p>The <i>Theaetetus</i>, <i>Sophist</i>, and <i>Statesman</i> are among Plato's most important dialogues both individually and as a group. For example, the <i>Theaetetus</i> is the first discussion of knowledge as justified true belief; the <i>Sophist</i> explores the possibility of falsity and the concept of Being (Heidegger wrote a book length commentary on it); and the <i>Statesman</i> introduces the concept of the golden mean. As a group the dialogues follow the <i>Parmenides</i>, in which a very young Socrates explains his theory of forms to Parmenides, who apparently demolishes it with a series of refutations. The significance of this, and the way the trilogy responds to it, is a major issue for understanding Plato's philosophy as a whole. The course will examine the three dialogues through a mixture of lectures and seminars.</p> <p>Textbook(s): If known</p> <p>Plato, Complete Works (edited by Cooper and Hutchinson) ISBN 0-87220-349-2</p> <p>Course requirements / evaluation: If known</p> <p>Two exegeses, either essays or seminars depending on enrollment.</p>		