

LIBS 340: Critical Inquiry
Plato's Republic
Dr. Mark A Menaldo
contact: mark.menaldo@tamuc.edu
Talbot 131
M, W, F 12:00-12:50

Office Hours: I am on campus most of the week, and you can drop anytime I am in my office. However, send me an email if you would like a set time to meet.

Emails: I respond to emails during work hours, Monday through Friday.

Learning objectives: This course will provide experiences for students to work on (1) close reading and enhancement of reading skills by carefully considering primary text materials, (2) engage in intensive writing exercises by writing short explications of texts, and revising all writing assignments, and (3) participate in high-level discussion through explication of text, critical questions, and peer discussion.

Grading:

Attendance and Participation 20%

Take-home midterm 20%

Writing Assignments 20%

Revised Writing Assignments 20%

Final Exam 20%

August 30-September 1:

- a) What's at stake? Morality, Justice, Education, and the Best Life.
- b) How to read Platonic Dialogues.

September 6-10: 327a-336a (first part of Book 1)

September 13-17: 336a-354c (remainder of Book 1: Socrates and Thrasymachus)

September 20-24: 357a-372e (first half of Book 2)

September 27-October 1: 372e-383c (second half of Book 2)

October 4-8: 386a-403c (first half of Book 3)

October 11-15: 403c-417b (second half of Book 3)

October 18-22: 419a-434c (first half of Book 4)

October 25-29: 434c-445e (second half of Book 4)

November 1-5: 449a-473c (first two thirds of Book 5)

November 8-12, November 22: 473c-487a (remainder of Book 5, beginning of Book 6)

November 24-26: Thanksgiving Break, no classes.

November 22-19: 487b-503b (“middle half” of Book 6) October 21: 503b-511e (remainder of Book 6)

November 29-December 3: 514a-541b (Book 7)

December 6-10: Spillover

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#)

document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.