CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
MA OPTIONAL COURSE

PO 540 Classical Political Philosophy

Unit I: The Pre-Socratics

Unit II: The Life and Personality of Socrates

Unit III: Plato

    A) Republic
    B) Symposium
    C) Phaedrus

Unit IV: Extensions of Greek political philosophy

    A) The Stoics
    B) Epicureanism
    C) Neoplatonism

Readings:

James Warren, Presocratics, Acumen, 2007

Sara Abel Rappe and Rachna Kamtekar, A Companion to Socrates, Blackwell, Oxford, 2005

W.K.C. Guthrie, Socrates, London, 1971

Rebecca Bensen Cain, The Socratic Method: Plato's Use of Philosophical Drama. Continuum, New York, 2007

Kenneth Seeskin, Dialogue and Discovery: A Study in Socratic Method, State University of New York Press, Albany, 1987

G.R.F. Ferrari, Listening to the Cicadas: A Study of Plato's Phaedrus, Cambridge University Press, 1987

R.T. Wallis, Neo-Platonism, Duckworth, London, 1972

Martha Nussbaum, The Therapy of Desire: theory and practice in Hellenistic Ethics, Princeton, 1994

Martha Nussbaum, The Fragility of Goodness: Luck and Ethics in Greek tragedy and philosophy, Cambridge, 2001

Dominic J. O'Meara, Platonopolis: Platonic Philosophy in Late Antiquity, Oxford, 2005

Karl Popper, The Open Society and its Enemies, Volume I. The Spell of Plato. Routledge, 2004

R.H.S. Crossman, Plato Today, London, 1937

Ernest Barker, Greek Political Theory. Plato and his Predecessors, London, 1929

George Klosko, The Development of Plato's Political Theory, New York, 1986

Brad Inwood (ed.) The Cambridge Companion to the Stoics, Cambridge, 2003

John Sellars, Stoicism, Acumen, 2006

Richard Kraut (ed.) The Cambridge Companion to Plato, Cambridge, 1992

Plato, The Republic, Translated with an introduction by Desmond Lee, Harmondsworth, 1974

Jonathan Barnes, 'Rhetoric and Poetics' in Jonathan Barnes (ed.) Cambridge Companion to Aristotle, Cambridge, 1995

Martin Bernal, Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilisation Volume One: The Fabrication of Ancient Greece 1785-1985, Vintage, 1991