

PHIL 643-01: Plato's *Phaedrus* and *Symposium*\*  
Dr. Kelly Arenson  
Thursdays 1:40-4:20pm  
Fall 2019

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a close reading of Plato's dialogues *Phaedrus* and *Symposium*. The entirety of the dialogues will be read along with secondary-source material. Topics to be considered include: the nature of love and its relation to philosophy; the soul; desire; pleasure; dialectic; Plato's use of myth, image, and dramatic technique; and rhetoric and writing.

## READINGS

We will be using the translations by A. Nehamas and P. Woodruff, which can be found in *Plato: Complete Works*, ed. by John Cooper, Indianapolis: Hackett, 1997. ISBN: 978-0872203495. You have the option to purchase the dialogues separately: Plato, *Phaedrus* Indianapolis: Hackett, 1995, ISBN: 978-0872202207. Plato, *Symposium*, Indianapolis: Hackett, 1999, ISBN: 978-0-87220-076-0.

All other readings (from secondary sources) will appear on Blackboard.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Presentation Paper (maximum 2000 words)
- Designated questioner of other students' presentation papers
- Term paper

\*This course fulfills the graduate distribution requirement in ancient philosophy.