

## Ancient Philosophy | PIU44011

Year	Senior Sophister
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22 (11 x 2-hour seminars)
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Professor Vasilis Politis
Contact Email	<a href="mailto:vpolitis@tcd.ie">vpolitis@tcd.ie</a>

### Module Outline:

The aim of the seminar is to work together on a new project on Plato, Foucault and Hadot on the care for the self. The seminar will combine:

- Reading Plato from this angle (the care for the self): especially Plato's *Phaedo*, the *Apology*, and *The Seventh Letter* and *Alcibiades I*.
- Reading some papers-in-progress of mine on these three works from this angle (the care for the self).
- Reading some very interesting work by Michel Foucault and Pierre Hadot on the care for the self in Greek philosophy and Plato. Also the more recent work by John M. Cooper.

### Assessment:

1 Essay (end of module) 50%: 1 Examination (end of module) 50%.

### Recommended Reading List:

- Plato: *Phaedo*. *Apology*. *The Seventh Letter*. *Alcibiades I*.
- V. Politis: papers-in-progress on each of these three works:
  - 'The Care for the Individual Through Dialogue and Dialectic. Plato's *Phaedo*.'
  - 'Plato's Seventh Letter'.
  - 'The Care for the Individual Through Dialogue and Dialectic. Plato's *Apology*.'
- Foucault, M. 2005. *The hermeneutics of the subject: lectures at the Collège de France, 1981–1982*. Edited by Frédéric Gros ; general editors, François Ewald and Alessandro Fontana; translated by Graham Burchell. (The original French edition published in 2001 by Éditions de Seuil/Gallimard.) Read especially pages 1 – 79.
- Hadot, P. 1995. *Philosophy as a Way of Life. Spiritual Exercises from Socrates to Foucault*. Oxford UK & Cambridge USA. Blackwell.
- Cooper, John M. 2012. *Pursuits of Wisdom. Six Ways of Life in Ancient Philosophy from Socrates to Plotinus*. Princeton. Princeton University Press.