

PHI 501: The Philosophy of Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* Book VII

Hendrik Lorenz, Fall 2019-2020

Course description

The seminar will offer close readings and a discussion of Book 7 of Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*. The main topics of the book are self-control, lack of self-control, and pleasure; the focus of the seminar will be on Aristotle's analysis of un-self-controlled action. Aristotle's treatments of the book's three central topics will be reconstructed, contextualized within his overall theories in the *Eudemian* and *Nicomachean Ethics*, and the resulting philosophical theories will be evaluated. Aristotle's writings will be studied in English translations; the Greek originals will be consulted when appropriate. Knowledge of ancient Greek is not necessary for attending the seminar. There will be opportunities for student presentations, and students may earn units in conjunction with the course.