**Classics 36: Class Outline. Week 7. T.**

**Aristotle’s philosophy of nature: Part 2**

***Physics* 2, 8-9**

**1) Natural necessity:**

* Given the nature of its material constituents, a thing must come to be in such a way and cannot come to be in another way (198b 10 and 200a 1)

**2) Problem with explanations by natural necessity:**

* the case of Zeus’ rain (198b 15)
* the case of the parts of an organism (198b 25-30)
* Natural necessity cannot explain why natural things come to be the way they do always or usually (for the most part) (199a 35)
* introducing natural teleology

**3) Natural teleology and the craft analogy (199a 15-b30)**

* Nature is for the sake of something like craft is (199a 15-30)
* Neither craft nor nature deliberate so that the end is brought about without deliberation (199b 30)

**4) Conditional necessity and final causes:**

* That for the sake of which something is is a final cause
* The final cause in natural things is the form as that for the sake of which the process of coming to be happens, i.e. as the end result and completion of the process of coming to be
* The final cause and its relation to matter (examples from the crafts: the case of the saw and the house, 200a 6-15 and 200a 25-30)
* To know natural things you need to know both the matter and the final cause, i.e. the form for the sake of which the matter is there (200a 30-35)