

Post Aristotle – rise of faith based philosophies

spirit of the times

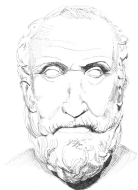
Socrates, Plato, Aristotle sought to explain truth, virtue, and happiness in universal terms.

virtue =

None of this comes naturally to societies

The decline of the Greeks, philosophy shifts to more pragmatic definitions of happiness

Skepticism



Pyrrho

influenced by the Sophists

contrast to dogmatism

no matter what you believe it could turn out to be false

took the extreme: avoid the despair of being wrong by not believing in anything at all

instead of truth, we have appearances (sensations) and convention (traditions)

Epicureanism

focus on this life being the good one (tranquility).

We are all made of stars (soul atoms)

minimalist philosophy:

The Cynic tradition

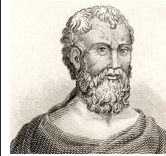
renunciation of philosophies that intellectualized truth



Antisthenes: student of Socrates; actions more than words

Diogenes: humans striving for convention lose connection with nature

the Stoics



Zeno of Citium
student of Crates

happiness \neq pleasure



"Every man is an actor in a play, in which God has assigned the parts; it is our duty to perform our part worthily, whatever it may be..."

Neoplatonism

Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Stoic, and Judaism



Philo

interestingly, a catalyst for Christianity

forms = concepts in mind of God

to know God we must reject senses. God only reveals himself to those open to receive him.

the rise of the Christian influence

philosophy & faith

St. Paul

early influential proponent of Christianity

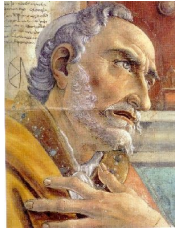
reinforced dualism of the Platonic tradition

life and after-life

body as prison denying enlightenment

philosophical questions of free will?

reconcile free will with all-knowing, all-being, all-doing deity



originally a Skeptic

later accepted a religion that denied personal accountability

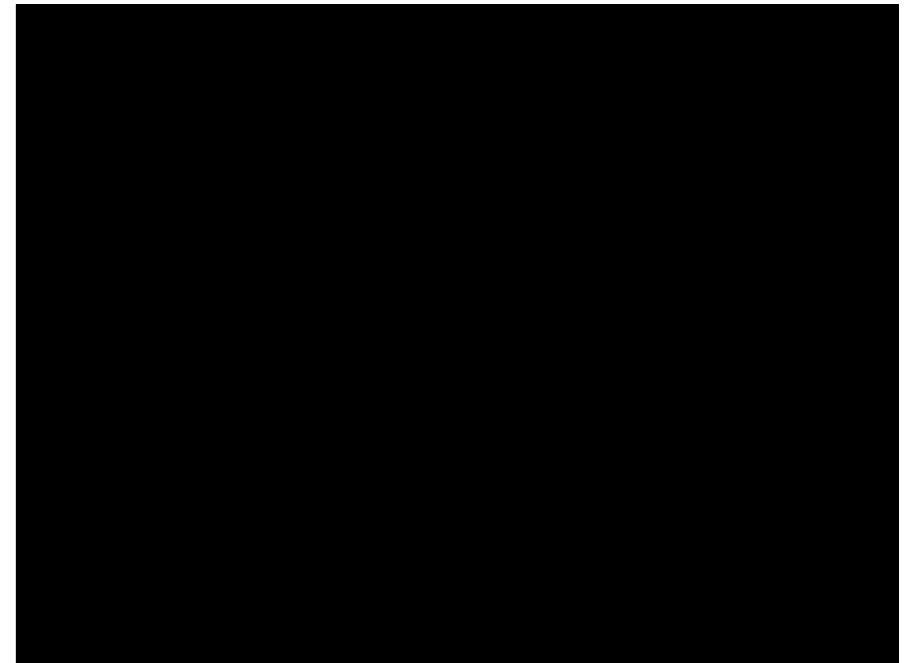
Confessions

discovers Neo-Platonism and converts to Christianity

St. Augustine

City of God: two cities—earthly & heavenly (Faustian trade-off)

"what cannot be doubted" (the fact that I doubt)



in the East (Arabic and Islamic tradition)

heavily influenced by Aristotle



Al Kindi

philosophy is a systematic whole whose roots lie in logic and whose peak is rational theology

other players...



Abu Zaid Al-Balkhi

psychosomatic disorders

humans and animals share the five senses that bound to earth

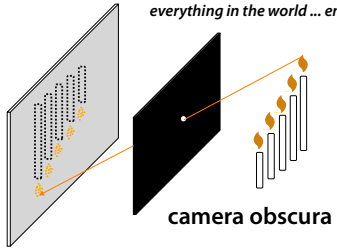
**psychology therapies: music for the sad, shock
placebo effect**

Avicenna



Alhazen (Abu Ali al-Hasan ibn al-Haytham)

everything in the world ... emits rays in every direction, which fill the whole world



camera obscura

sight based **wholly on external light**; necessity of
rational thinker in perception



Averroës



human thought can not be a result of sensation alone but imagination
must also coincide in order to objectively understand something