Optional Subject

(The concept of soul in Graeco-Roman antiquity)

(lecture)

BTÖ-DK-013A

We shall see the rise of the notion of soul as opposed to body (corpse) and its development in the various philosophical schools from the Presocratics to the Stoics and Epicureans. The main issues: the nature of the soul (is it corporeal or not?), its content, its parts, its relation to the body of the living being, its relation to the self and its immortality (if it is).

Requirement: an essay of 10.000 characters on some of issues discussed in the class, and to be presented at the end of the term.

The course:

1 – What is soul? Early theories.

2 – Plato’s Socratic theory of the soul in the *Phaedo* – the notion of recollection (*Meno* 81A-86C, *Phaedo* 69E-84B)

3 – Plato: the theory of soul and virtues in the *Republic* (*Rep.* I, IV (427D-től))

4 – Plato: types of persons and states (*Rep.* IX)

5 – Plato: immortality of the soul – the myth of Er (X 614A-620D)

7 – Aristotle: the soul as form (*On the soul* II 1-2)

8 – Aristotle: sense-perception and thinking (*On the soul* II 5-12, III 4-5)

9 – The Stoics on the structure of the soul. Passions (Long-Sedley, 53§)

9 – The Stoic notion of person and its antecedents (Long-Sedley65-66. §§)

10 – Epicurus’ views on the soul and personal identity (Long-Sedley14§)

11 – Epicurean theory of cognition (Long-Sedley 15-17.§§)

12 – Techniques for living well and philosophical theory (Epictetus)

Lecturer: Peter Lautner (lautner@btk.ppke.hu)

Venue: D 703

Time: Monday 10:15-11.45 AM

Literature:

The texts of Plato’s dialogues referred to in the description above, Aristotle’s *On the soul*, Epictetus’ *Dissertations* and the collection by Long & Sedley will be uploaded in the GoogleDrive.