Reading Assignment 10: Aristotle

Assigned Reading

Sections 1-4 and 7-9 of C. Shields. "Aristotle". In: *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. by E. N. Zalta. Winter 2016. Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University, 2016.

Due Date

Please bring a typed, hard copy of your answers to class on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Answer questions one, two, three, and four below. Together, your answers should not be longer than a single typed page.

Questions

- 1. According to Shields, how does Aristotle's approach to philosopher differ from Descartes'?
- 2. What are endoxa and phainomena, and what is the relationship between the two?
- 3. Why is logic an essential but nonetheless incomplete tool for science, according to Aristotle? Give your own examples of a syllogism which would be appropriate in science, and one that would be not. In no more than a paragraph, explain the difference.
- 4. Suppose that an icicle falls from a rooftop and shatters on the ground. Explain why the icicle shatters by using each of Aristotle's four causes. [Note: This requires a bit of creativity on your part. Do your best.]
- 5. What was the most controversial type of cause in Aristotle's physics, and provide one reason it was so controversial.

REFERENCES

[1] C. Shields. "Aristotle". In: *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. by E. N. Zalta. Winter 2016. Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University, 2016.