

FIL2560/4560 History of philosophy from 600 BC until the 17th century  
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In this course we shall focus on the philosophy of Plotinus (205-270 AD). Plotinus was the founder of so-called Neoplatonism, which was the dominating philosophical movement in Late Antiquity. Understandably, Neoplatonism deeply influenced both early Christian and Islamic thought. It was also later to exert its influence, in particular during the Renaissance and the period of German idealism in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In this course Neoplatonism's outlook on the world will be presented primarily through texts by and on Plotinus. We are going to read the treatises "The three primary hypostases" (Ennead V.1), "On what are and whence come evils" (Ennead I.8), and "What is the living being and what is man" (Ennead I.1). In addition we shall read as secondary literature Eyjólfur K. Emilsson, *Plotinus* (will appear from Routledge in 2016 in 2917). This work gives a comprehensive overview over Plotinus' thought.