

Medieval Philosophy

[Roosevelt University](#), Fall 2010, PHIL 250, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:15 pm,
AUD 510

[Professor Svetozar Minkov](#)

Books

1) Medieval Political Philosophy, ed. Parens and Macfarland (**second edition!**) [2011 Cornell University Press](#).

2) [Arabian Nights](#)

3) Other materials provided by professor

This course will aim at recapturing the most exciting tensions and complexities of medieval Islamic and Jewish thought.

Reading Assignments

Tuesday, August 30, [How to Study Medieval Philosophy](#)

Thursday, September 1, Ibn Tufayl, Hayy the son of Yaqzan (pp. 105-112 in **Sourcebook**)

Tuesday, September 6, Ibn Tufayl, Hayy the son of Yaqzan (pp. 112-122 in **Sourcebook**)

Thursday, September 8, Alfarabi, Enumeration of the Sciences (pp. 18-23 in **Sourcebook**)

Tuesday, September 13, Alfarabi, Book of Religion (pp. 24-35 in **Sourcebook**)

Thursday, September 15, Alfarabi, Attainment of Happiness (pp. 56-71 in **Sourcebook**) [**first short paper due**] [Instructions](#)

Tuesday, September 20, Avicenna, Healing: Metaphysics 10 (pp. 77-88 in **Sourcebook**)

Thursday, September 22, Averroes, *Decisive Treatise* (pp. 123-140 in **Sourcebook**)

Tuesday, September 27, Averroes, *Decisive Treatise* (pp. 123-140 in **Sourcebook**)

Thursday September 29, Halevi, Kuzari (pp. 162-179 in **Sourcebook**)

Tuesday, October 4, Halevi, Kuzari, cont'd

Thursday, October 6, Maimonides, Guide of Perplexed (selections given by professor; Guide I.1-2)

Tuesday, October 11, Maimonides, Guide of Perplexed (selections given by professor) [**second short paper due**] [Instructions](#)

Thursday, October 13, Maimonides, Guide of the Perplexed (selections given by professor)

(evening of Monday, October 17: lecture by, and dinner with, Joshua Parens)

Tuesday, October 18, Maimonides, Guide of the Perplexed (selections from **Sourcebook**) [visit by Joshua Parens]

Thursday, October 20, Maimonides, Guide of the Perplexed (selections from **Sourcebook**)

Tuesday, October 25, [Maimonides' Book of Knowledge](#)

Thursday, October 27, [Maimonides' Book of Knowledge](#)

Tuesday, November 1, [Maimonides' Book of Knowledge](#) [**third short paper due**]

Thursday, November 3, **Maimonides**

Tuesday, November 8, 1,001 [Nights/Arabian Nights](#) (selections; Mahdi essay)

Thursday, November 10, **No class, required attendance of Ronna Burger's talk, 4:30 pm**

Tuesday, November 15, 1,001 Nights (selections) **[fourth short paper due]**

Thursday, November 17, 1,001 Nights

[no classes during Thanksgiving week]

Tuesday, November 29, 1,001 Nights

Thursday, December 1, 1,001 Nights

Tuesday, December 6, 1,001 Nights

Thursday, December 8, concluding discussion

The final paper (worth 27% of your semester grade) is due by email by the end of the day (midnight) on December 12.