The course, "Aristotle's Ethics" is centrally concerned with Aristotle's book, the *Nicomachean Ethics*. We will work through the book in detail, mostly in the order that the text is presented. Along the way, we shall examine some relevant secondary literature in the field. Here is a preliminary draft of how the topics will be handled:

**Topic 1: The Hierarchy of Ends, *Endoxa*, and the Criticism of Plato**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book I, Chapters 1 – 6, 8 – 12
- John McDowell, “The Role of Eudaimonia in Aristotle’s Ethics”
- Plato’s *Republic* II, 357b-358b

**Topic 2: Aristotle’s Function Argument. Activity and the Completeness of Happiness**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book I, Chapter 7 and Book X, Chapter 4
- J. L. Ackrill, “Aristotle’s Distinction Between *Energeia* and *Kinesis*”
- Plato’s *Republic* I, 352d-354a

**Topic 3: Virtue as a Mean State**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book 1, Chapter 13 – Book II, Chapter 9
- M. F. Burnyeat, “Aristotle on Learning to be Good”
- Urmson, J. O. “Aristotle’s Doctrine of the Mean”

**Topic 4: Virtue and Responsibility**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book III, Chapters 1 – 5
- J. L. Ackrill, “Aristotle on Action”
- T. H. Irwin, “Reason and Responsibility in Aristotle”

**Topic 5: Virtues of Character: Courage and Moderation**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book III, Chapters 6 – 12
- David Pears, “Courage as a Mean”

**Topic 6: Virtues of Character: Magnificence, Generosity, Magnanimity, & Minor Virtues**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book IV
- W. F. R. Hardie, “Magnanimity in Aristotle’s Ethics”
- Neil Cooper, “Aristotle’s Crowning Virtue”

**Topic 7: Virtues of Character: Justice**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book V
- Bernard Williams, “Justice as a Virtue”
- Theodore Scaltsas, “Reciprocal Justice in Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*”

**Topic 8: Virtues of Intellect**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book VI
- Richard Sorabji, “Aristotle on the Role of Intellect in Virtue”
• David Wiggins, “Deliberation and Practical Reason”

**Topic 9: Weakness of Will (*Akrasia*)**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book VII, Chapters 1 – 10
- David Wiggins, “Weakness of Will, Commensurability, and the Objects of Deliberation and Desire”

**Topic 10: Pleasure**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book VII, Chapters 11 – 14 and Book X, Chapters 1 – 5
- Amélie Rorty, “Akrasia and Pleasure: *Nicomachean Ethics* Book 7”
- Julia Annas, “Aristotle on Pleasure and Goodness”

**Topic 11: Friendship**
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Books VIII – XI
- Plato’s *Lysis*
- Julia Annas, “Plato and Aristotle on Friendship and Altruism”
- John M. Cooper, “Aristotle on Friendship”

**Topic 12: The Life of Contemplation and the Unity(?) of the *Nicomachean Ethics***
- *Nicomachean Ethics* Book X, Chapters 6 – 9
- Amélie Rorty, “The Place of Contemplation in Aristotle’s Ethics”
- Kathleen Wilkes, “The Good Man and the Good for Man in Aristotle’s Ethics”
- J. L. Ackrill, “Aristotle on Eudaimonia”