

# Ústav filosofie a religionistiky FF UK

vás srdečně zve na seminář

## Aristotle on the Principle of Non-Contradiction

Jim Hankinson, University of Texas, Austin

Kdy: Pondělí / Monday 13.5., 15:50 - 17:20

Úterý / Tuesday 14.5., 10:50 - 12:20

Kde: 225V, ÚFAR FF UK, nám. Jana Palacha 2, II. patro

The workshop will cover *Metaph. Gamma* 3-4, 1005a19-1009a5 (Ross). The focus of the discussion, obviously enough, will be on Aristotle's presentation and defence of "the firmest of all principles", that of non-contradiction. I plan to go more or less consecutively through the text, making a break between the two sessions at 1007a20 (although this will be flexible). Among the basic questions I want to tackle are: 1) What exactly is the status of PNC? In what sense is it a 'Law of Thought'? 2) What is 'demonstration by refutation', and why does Aristotle think it is non-question-begging? 3) How much of a role is played in the argument by Aristotle's own metaphysical presuppositions (in particular the theory of categories, and the distinction between essential and incidental predication), and does this vitiate the generality of the argument? 4) Why does Aristotle think that proponents of instantiated contradiction need be committed to the view that all contradictions are true?