

Greek Philosophers

Socrates is mostly known for being the “most interesting and influential thinker of the 5th century.” He also sought genuine knowledge and called everything into question. Socrates never wrote anything down. His main interests were ethics and epistemology.

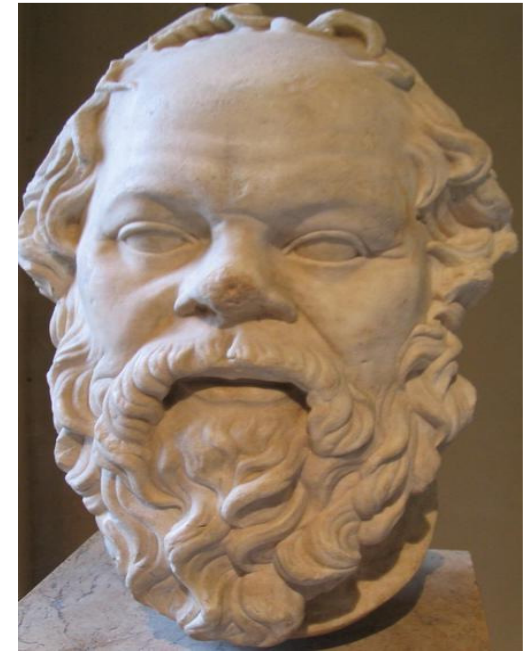
Socrates

469 B.C. – 399 B.C.

Socrates was born in Athens, Greece in 469 B.C. He made a great influence impression toward philosophy. Socrates was also widely recognized in Athens as a “controversial” figure and was mocked in many plays. Thus, making him the main object of ridicule. At the age of seventy, Socrates was appointed to court for impiety. The jury found him guilty, and

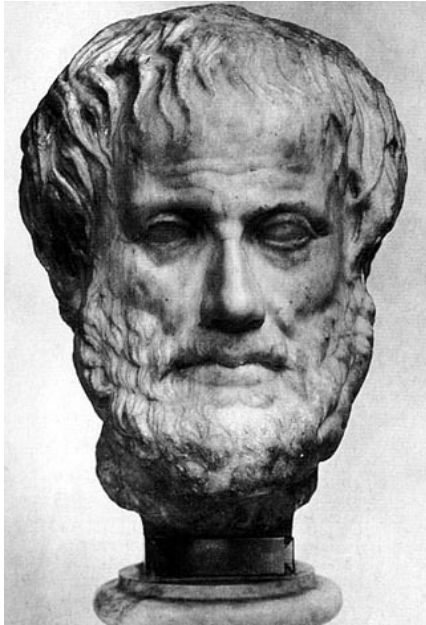


Hemlock—poison used to kill Socrates



When found guilty and sentenced to death, Socrates had to drink the poison, hemlock. After his death, his followers preserved and praised his memory with his work that represented him and described him as a person.

Aristotle (384-322 B. C.)



Aristotle was born in Chalcidic, Greece in 384 B.C. He later died in 322 B.C. Aristotle is known for being the “greatest figure of western history”.

- * Aristotle’s intellectual range in many arts of science were biology, botany, chemistry, ethics, zoology, and much more. He is also a philosopher and became the author of a system that later became the framework for Christian Scholasticism and Islamic philosophy.
- * Aristotle is also the founder of “formal logic”.
- * Before his father died, he went to the Academy of Plato at the age of seven. There he later became Plato’s colleague and pupil.



In 343 B.C., Aristotle was asked by King Philip to tutor his 13 year old son named Alexander (later became Alexander the Great). When the king died, Alexander became king and Aristotle left for Athens to start his own school. His school was called Lyceum. However, when Alexander was killed, Aristotle was in jeopardy with impiety, and fled to his mother’s house in 323 B.C. Aristotle died a year later in 322 B.C.

Cited

- * <http://www.biography.com/articles/Aristotle>
- * <http://www.librarythinksquest.org>
- * <http://www.philosophypages.com>