*Genesis*

Kant, “Conjectural Beginning of Human History”

Plato, *Gorgias*

Arts One, Fall 2013, Remake/Remodel

1) What is the significance of the repetition of motifs in *Genesis*? You might consider, for example, sibling rivalry, parental deception, female seduction, encounters at the well, or example(s) of your choice.

2) Focusing on the story of Jacob and Esau, explore the relationship between intention and outcome in the framing of moral choices in *Genesis.*

3) Discuss one or more of the implications of the narrative of the Fall in *Genesis* and/or Kant.

4) Consider the relationship between humans and animals presented in Kant's *Conjectural beginning of human history* and/or *Genesis*.

5) In what ways and to what end does Kant remake/remodel *Genesis*?

6) Discuss the relation between fiction and truth in one of the following texts: *Genesis*, Kant’s *Conjectural Beginning of Human History*, Plato’s *Gorgias*.

7) Using Plato’s own criteria from *Gorgias*, what distinguishes a work of philosophy from a purely fictional story, and does the *Gorgias* itself fulfill the criteria for a philosophical work?

8) Why, in your view, does Plato use a dialogue between characters to make his arguments in *Gorgias?*

9) Is Plato better characterized as a philosopher, or as an orator, given what he says in *Gorgias*?