**Plato’s *Timaeus***

***Prof. Chloe Balla***

Plato’s *Timaeus*

1.     Plato on the constraints of natural science (the notion of a ‘likely account’).

2.     The priority of creationism (the notion of the Divine Demiurge – anticipating the argument from design [with special reference to *Laws* X])

3.     The politics of cosmology: The place of the *Timaeus* in Plato’s political philosophy (with special reference to the story of Atlantis)

Required readings

F. M. Cornford, *Plato’s Cosmology.* Hackett, 1997 (selections). (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/53162671/Francis-M-Cornford-Plato-s-cosmology-The-Timaeus-of-Plato>)

T.K. Johansen, *Plato’s Natural Philosophy. A Study of the Timaeus-Critias*, Cambridge University Press, 2004 (selections)

Ch. Rowe, “Plato” in D. Sedley, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Greek and Roman Philosophy*, CUP, 2003: 98-124.

D. Sedley, *Creationism and its Critics in Antiquity,* University of California Press, 2007:93-132.

P. Vidal-Naquet, *The Atlantis Story: A Short History of Plato’s Myth.* University of Exeter Press, 2007 (selections)