

September 10, 2021  
MSE 2101 topics

- ~400 B.C.: Plato, Aristotle and the Geocentric model
- ~260 B.C.: Aristarchus, “If Sun is much larger than Earth, why would it revolve around it?”
- ~150 A.D.: Ptolemy and the Ptolemaic model: “How do we explain the retrograde motion of the planets?”
- Aristarchus and the problem of parallaxes
- Anaximander's apeiron
- The great debate: Atomists (Democritus) vs. Aristotelians
  - **Epicurus**: *“there are infinite worlds both like and unlike this world of ours ... we must believe that in all worlds there are living creatures and plants and other things we see in this world.”*
  - **Aristotle**: *“the world must be unique ... there cannot be several worlds.”*
- 330 B.C.: Alexander the Great; the Alexandria library
- 391 A.D.: the decree of Pope Theophilus; dark ages
- Middle ages of the Islamic world; the rise of Baghdad
- 1250: St. Thomas Aquinas – Aristotle into Christian theology