

# Socrates & Galileo: Science on Trial (CLAS 333 = HIST 303)

Fall 2023

MWF at 12:00

Dr. David M. Johnson

Socrates founded western philosophy. Galileo founded modern science.

But the Athenian democracy executed Socrates, and the Catholic Church condemned Galileo. Why?

You'll learn through historical role-playing games. You will re-enact these trials as citizens of Athens or leaders in Renaissance Italy. Experience the religious, political, historical, and intellectual ideas at play in the two most famous trials in western history. Study Socrates' revolutionary ideas about human life and Galileo's innovations in scientific method & discovery.



*Socrates reaches for the hemlock*



*Galileo pleads his case*

Questions? [mjohnson@siu.edu](mailto:mjohnson@siu.edu)