The nature of philosophy was a contested matter in the ancient world. For Isocrates wisdom, and hence philosophy, was a matter of experience and reflection upon public and private affairs. Plato's view was loftier. It involved a grasp of eternal, immaterial Forms borne of dialectical reasoning. In this course we will examine Aristotle's conception of philosophy and its method. We will carefully consider what role he thinks dialectic plays in philosophy (if any); what kind of knowledge the Aristotelian philosopher seeks; what method(s) or procedure(s) he/she uses in seeking it; and how Aristotle thinks the branches of philosophy differ epistemically from one another. Among other things, we will read selections of the Topics, Posterior Analytics, Sophistical Refutations, Physics, Metaphysics, Nicomachean Ethics, and Eudemian Ethics, in addition to the most relevant bits of secondary literature. Students will be expected to do a presentation on a piece of secondary literature and write a final 15pg. term paper.