ARISTOTLE’S ANTHROPOLOGY

This is the first collection of essays devoted specifically to the nature and significance of Aristotle’s anthropological philosophy, covering the full range of his ethical, metaphysical, and biological works. The book is organised into four parts, two of which deal with the metaphysics and biology of human nature, and two of which discuss the anthropological foundations and implications of Aristotle’s ethico-political works. The essays range over topics from human nature and morality to friendship and politics, including original discussion and fresh perspectives on rationalism, the intellect, perception, virtue, the faculty of speech, and the differences and similarities between human and non-human animals. Wide-ranging and innovative, the volume will be highly relevant for readers studying Aristotle, as well as for anyone working on either ancient or contemporary philosophical anthropology.

Geert Keil is Professor of Philosophy at Humboldt University of Berlin. He is co-editor of Vagueness in Psychiatry (2017) and Vagueness and Law (2016).

Nora Kreft is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Humboldt University of Berlin. Her areas of research are moral psychology, philosophy of love, and ancient philosophy.
ARISTOTLE’S ANTHROPOLOGY

EDITED BY
GEERT KEIL
Humboldt University of Berlin

NORA KREFT
Humboldt University of Berlin
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of Contributors</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction: Aristotle’s Anthropology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geert Keil and Nora Kreft</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART I HUMAN BEINGS AS RATIONAL ANIMALS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Aristotle on the Definition of What It Is to Be Human</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Kietzmann</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Speech and the Rational Soul</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian C. McCready-Flora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Aristotle’s Peculiarly Human Psychology</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Cagnoli Fiecconi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The Planetary Nature of Mankind: A Cosmological Perspective on Aristotle’s Anthropology</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christof Rapp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART II HUMAN NATURE IN THE LIGHT OF ARISTOTLE’S BIOLOGY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James G. Lennox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Spot the Differences! The Hidden Philosophical Anthropology in Aristotle’s Biological Writings</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jörn Müller</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Aristotle on the Anthropological Difference and Animal Minds</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans-Johann Glock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Contents

**PART III ARISTOTLE’S MORAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

8  Why Human Virtue Is the Measure of All Virtue  
   Kathi Beier  
   163

9  Aristotle on Friendship and Being Human  
   Nora Kreft  
   182

10 Aristotle on the Possibility of Moral Perfection  
   Christoph Horn  
   200

**PART IV ARISTOTLE’S POLITICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

11 Political Animals and Human Nature in Aristotle’s *Politics*  
   Joseph Karbowski  
   221

12 Political Animals and the Genealogy of the *Polis*: Aristotle’s  
   *Politics* and Plato’s *Statesman*  
   David J. Depew  
   238

13 The Deficiency of Human Nature: The Task of  
   a ‘Philosophy of Human Affairs’  
   Dorothea Frede  
   258

*Bibliography*  
275

*Index*  
291
Contributors

Kathi Beyer is Junior Fellow in Philosophy at the Max Weber Centre for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies at the University of Erfurt.

Elena Cagnoli Fiecconi is Lecturer in Philosophy in the Department of Greek and Latin at University College London.

David J. Depew is Emeritus Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Iowa and was previously Professor of Philosophy at California State University, Fullerton.

Dorothea Frede is Professor Emerita of Ancient Philosophy at the University of Hamburg.

Hans-Johann Glock is Professor of Theoretical Philosophy at the University of Zurich.

Christoph Horn is Professor of Practical Philosophy and Ancient Philosophy at the University of Bonn.

Joseph Karbowski is Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh.

Geert Keil is Professor of Philosophy at the Humboldt University of Berlin.

Christian Kietzmann is Assistant Professor in Philosophy at the University of Erlangen.

Nora Kreft is Assistant Professor in Philosophy at the Humboldt University of Berlin.

James G. Lennox is Professor of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh.
List of Contributors

IAN C. MCCREADY-FLORA is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Virginia.

JÖRN MÜLLER is Professor of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy at the University of Würzburg.

CHRISTOF RAPP is Professor of Ancient Philosophy at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.
Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Gelareh Shahpar, Noah Nasarek, and Martin Günther for their invaluable assistance in preparing the final manuscript and compiling the bibliography and index. Eric J. Engstrom meticulously copy-edited the Introduction and three chapters (1, 6, and 10). His work was funded by the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung. Christof Rapp read a draft of the Introduction and made a number of very valuable suggestions. We are also grateful to an anonymous reader for Cambridge University Press whose helpful comments significantly improved the manuscript. Throughout the editing and publication process, it was an immense pleasure to work with Hilary Gaskin, Marianne Nield, and Sophie Taylor at Cambridge University Press.