

# Cambridge Elements

Elements in Ethics

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## ARISTOTLE'S ETHICS

*Nicomachean and Eudemian  
Themes*

Paula Gottlieb

*University of Wisconsin, Madison*



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Paula Gottlieb  
*University of Wisconsin, Madison*

**Author for correspondence:** Paula Gottlieb, [plgottli@wisc.edu](mailto:plgottli@wisc.edu)

**Abstract:** This Element is an examination of the philosophical themes presented in Aristotle's *Nicomachean* and *Eudemean Ethics*. Topics include happiness, the voluntary and choice, the doctrine of the mean, particular virtues of character and temperamental means, virtues of thought, *akrasia*, pleasure, friendship, and luck. Special attention has been paid to Aristotle's treatment of virtues of character and thought and their relation to happiness, the reason why Aristotle is the quintessential virtue ethicist. The virtues of character have not received the attention they deserve in most discussions of the relationship between the two treatises.

**Keywords:** Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, *Eudemean Ethics*, virtue, happiness

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