**PHILOSOPHY HONORS, UNIT I AND II: THE LEAST YOU NEED TO KNOW**  
  
1. ONTOLOGY – Study of Being and Existence.   
  
-Monism: The theory that existence is composed of one world made of one thing (energy?)  
-Dualism: The theory that there are two worlds, meaning two different kinds of thing (matter/spirit?)  
-“Essence” / “True Being” : the supposedly unchanging part of a thing that makes it itself (soul?)  
-“Existence”/ “Becoming”: the changing world around us, where nothing “is” anything but flux   
  
2. EPISTEMOLOGY – Study of Knowledge and Truth   
  
-Empiricism: The theory that all knowledge begins with sensory observation of the world  
-Rationalism: The theory that knowledge comes from the mind alone; senses are deceptive  
  
3. ETHICS – Study of Morality and the Good Life   
  
-Subjective: opinion-based, personal, “in” one’s mind  
-Objective: factual, impersonal, “out” there in reality  
-Relative: Depends on both the subject (the perceiver) and the object (the perceived)  
-Aesthetic: Related to the study of beauty and art

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| PHILOSOPHER | MY NOTES |
| Heraclitus (Monism) |  |
| Protagoras (Relativism) |  |
| Socrates (Objectivism, Dualism) |  |
| Plato (Dualism, Rationalism) |  |
| Aristotle (Monism, Empiricism) |  |