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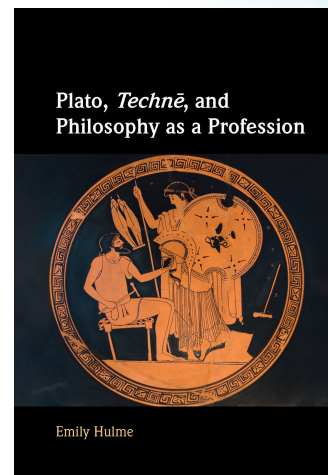
Plato, *Technē*, and Philosophy as a Profession

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Who has a legitimate claim to wisdom? Emily Hulme argues that Plato's response to this question was shaped by the concept of *technē* (art, craft, expertise, profession) and that he developed the notion of philosophy as a genuine profession in the dialogues against the rival claims of practices like sophistry. The first part of the book concerns *technē* in general, drawing on literary, epigraphic, and art historical evidence to discuss this concept in Greek thought and culture and explaining the position of this term in Plato's epistemological vocabulary. The second part offers close readings of a handful of key dialogues: philosophy defined against sophistry in *Euthydemus*, *Hippias Minor*, *Protagoras*, and *Gorgias*; the profession of philosopher-rulers in the *Republic*; and philosophy versus politics in the *Sophist* and *Statesman*.

Introduction; Part I. *Technē* in General: 1. What is *technē*?; 2. Plato's vocabulary of expertise; Part II. Is Philosophy a *Technē*? Is Politics? Are They the Same *Technē*?: 3. Consumer fraud in the marketplace of ideas: Plato on rhetoric and sophistry; 4. Philosophers as professionals: philosophy-rulership as a *technē*; 5. Kindred arts of philosophy: Theaetetus, sophist, and statesman; Conclusion; Bibliography.



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