In his *Timaeus*, Plato has his eponymous character describe how a divine demiurge created the universe by arranging the world towards what is best. Although the explanations that follow appear to be earnest attempts to explicate physical phenomena, Timaeus casts his discussion as an “eikos logos,” which can be translated as “probable account” or “image-based explanation.” This course explores the meaning of this phrase by examining the use of analogy within ancient cosmological texts. How do we come to understand what is unfamiliar? How do we envision what we cannot see? By exploring the use of analogies in ancient scientific explanations, the course will examine the implications of language theory on science, the effects of a technological environment on latent assumptions about the world, and the relationship between technological analogies and “arguments from design.”