

## 2.2 The Socratic Method (Review)

- Dialect: (from the Greek word for to 'argue' or 'converse') A dynamic exchange or method involving contradiction or technique for establishing an informed conclusion
- Sophists: influential group of travelling educators who would teach rhetoric & oration for a fee
- Socrates was a master of irony
- "Might makes Right" → higher authority = right
- "Reductio ad absurdum" → reducing to absurdity

## 2.3 Socrates Central Concern: The Soul

- Psyche: The true self or "soul" which is immortal & imperishable.
- Socrates believed there was a clearly defined path to achieve happiness. (virtuous & wise, reflective, strive to behave rightly & justly in every area)
- Eudaimonia (happiness): Actively exercising our soul's powers
- The truth lies within each of us → Apply the divine gift of reason to look within ourselves & discover universal truths
- Strive for excellence in all areas of life → be good/masterful at many things
- No one knowingly does evil → by exploring central questions in life regarding justice, mortality, & goodness, we become good people
- It is better to suffer wickedness than to commit it → doing wrong will harm & corrupt the part of ourselves that is improved by just actions