



Course Guide

PHIL10112: The Structure of Being 2015/16

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Contents

1. Course Aims and Objectives
2. Intended Learning Outcomes
3. Course Description
4. Seminar Content
5. Readings
6. Assessment

1. Course Aims and Objectives

The running thread throughout the course will be **Neo-Aristotelianism** in contemporary metaphysics.

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

The coursework involves close and critical analysis of various historical and current views on central issues in the ontology of substances. Students are asked to read, critically assess and discuss some of the most important texts in these fields. Students are encouraged to develop their skills in individual research and their critical, analytic communication skills through informal discussion in the classroom.

3. Course Description

The topics which will be discussed as such as Logical Atomism; Abstract Objects; Universals; Nominalism; Substances versus Bundles; States of Affairs; Hylomorphism; Substantial Holism.

4. Seminar Content

Lecture 1-2 - The Origins of Analytic Metaphysics

Lecture 3 - Abstract Objects and Universals 1

Lecture 4 - Abstract Objects and Universals 2

Lecture 5 - Abstract Objects-3 and Nominalism-1

Lecture 6 - Nominalism 2

Lecture 7 - Nominalism 3

Lecture 8 - Substances versus Bundles 1

Lecture 9 - Substances versus Bundles 2

Lecture 10 - States of Affairs

Lecture 11 - Aristotle – Unity of Matter and Form

Lecture 11 - Hylomorphism or Substantial Holism

5. Readings

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/metaphysics/>

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/logical-atomism/>

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/wittgenstein-atomism/>

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/logical-empiricism/>
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/quine/#QuiEpi>
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/quine/#QuiEpi>
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/realism/>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Malet_Armstrong
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/functionalism/#EarAnt>
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/functionalism/#EarAnt>
<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/279305/hylomorphism>
<http://www.3ammagazine.com/3am/metaphysical-kit/>
https://www.ualberta.ca/~koslicki/research_interests.html
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/states-of-affairs/>

Particular readings are recommended in the sources above.

6. Assessment

- 1. Mid-term essay of 1,500 words (40%), due on Thursday 2nd March 12pm. Electronic submission only.**
- 2. Final two-hour examination in the May diet TBA (60%)**