

## **PHI 540 Metaphysics: The Structure of the Physical World**

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Office hours: Wed 1:00 – 2:00 or by appointment

### **Syllabus**

See the list of further readings for full bibliographic information on the selections below.

#### **Seminar 1: Substantivalism and Relationalism**

- Sklar, *Space, Time and Space-Time*, pages 157—167, 182—191, 198—202, 225—234

#### **Seminar 2: The Leibnizian Program**

- Huggett, *Space from Einstein to Zeno*, pages 143-158, the Leibniz-Clark correspondence
- Sklar, *Space, Time and Space-Time*, pages 167—181
- Earman, *World Enough and Space-Time*, pages 41-47

#### **Seminar 3: Modality, Fundamentality and Haeccetism I**

- Pooley, pages 84—92
- Lewis, *On the Plurality of Worlds*, pages 192-198, 220-248

#### **Seminar 4: Modality, Fundamentality and Haeccetism II**

- Rosen, “Metaphysical Dependence: Grounding and Reduction”
- Sider, *Writing the Book of the World*, chapter 6

#### **Seminar 5: Detection**

- Maudlin, “Buckets of Water and Waves of Space”, pages 188-192

### **Seminar 6: Symmetry**

- Roberts, “A Puzzle about Laws, Symmetries and Measurable Quantities”
- Van Fraassen and Ismael, “Symmetry as a Guide to Superfluous Structure”

### **Seminar 7: Individuals I**

- Adams, “Primitive Thisness and Primitive Identity”
- O’Leary-Hawthorne, “The Bundle Theory of Substance and the Identity of Indiscernibles”

### **Seminar 8: Individuals II**

- Sider and Hawthorne, “Locations”
- Dasgupta, “Individuals: An Essay in Revisionary Metaphysics”

### **Seminar 9: Properties I**

- Hawthorne, “Quantity in Lewisian Metaphysics”
- Bigelow and Pargetter, “Quantities”
- Armstrong, “Are Quantities Relations?”

### **Seminar 10: Properties II**

- Lewis, “Ramseyan Humility”
- Hawthorne, “Causal Structuralism”

### **Other topics:**

- Maudlin on universals?
- Substantivalism in General Relativity: The Hole Argument?