

# METAPHYSICS

PHIL352 (AO1)

Metaphysics concerns the nature of reality. This intermediate course surveys: existence, resemblance, cause, possibility, objects, persistence, space, and time.

**PREREQUISITES** PHIL203 + 3 units of philosophy, or permission.

**PLACE/TIME** MAC D114, Monday & Thursday 11:30pm-12:50pm (*spring 2017*)

**INSTRUCTOR** DR Mike Raven (✉ [mike@mikeraven.net](mailto:mike@mikeraven.net) • 🌐 [mikeraven.net](http://mikeraven.net))

**OFFICE HOURS** CLE B323 Monday 1:00-3:00pm, or by appointment.

**WEBSITE** 🌐 [coursespaces.uvic.ca/course/view.php?id=26512](http://coursespaces.uvic.ca/course/view.php?id=26512)

**TEXTS**  
R † CONEE & SIDER, *Riddles of Existence (New Edition)*  
M • KIM, KORMAN, & SOSA (eds.), *Metaphysics (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*  
K • KRIPKE, *Naming and Necessity*

## EVALUATION

**RUBRIC** The RUBRIC discusses the skilled craftsmanship to be trained in this class, and offers guidelines on how to apply it in class and in your work. Consult the RUBRIC repeatedly throughout the term:

🌐 [mikeraven.net/teaching/\[Raven\] Philosophy Rubric.pdf](http://mikeraven.net/teaching/[Raven] Philosophy Rubric.pdf)

**WORK**

- **3 problem sets (75%)** Due (tentative): FEB6, MAR6, APR7
- **Checkpoints (20%):** Best 7 of 10 unscheduled in-class quizzes
- **Participation (5%):** Engagement with the course, including: contributions to class and communication with the instructor.

**GRADES** The grade you earn depends on your work in this course. All work is needed to pass. No extra credit. Work is evaluated for craftsmanship (see RUBRIC) on the scale: A<sup>+</sup>90 A<sup>89-85</sup> A<sup>-84-80</sup> B<sup>+</sup>79-77 B<sup>76-73</sup> B<sup>-72-70</sup> C<sup>+</sup>69-65 C<sup>64-60</sup> D<sup>59-50</sup> F<sup><50</sup>

**LATENESS** If you do not expect to complete an assignment on time, inform the instructor and then submit what you have done on time. Extensions must be requested before due date and expire by return date (exceptions only at the instructor's discretion). Unextended late work is penalized 5 points/day and is not entitled to feedback.

## POLICIES

**CONDUCT** Enrolling binds you to a social contract: be professional and respectful in class (e.g. don't bully, distract) and in your work (see RUBRIC §3.4).

**CONTACT** When seeking guidance, communicate professionally: first check official sources (syllabus, website, RUBRIC), and budget time for replies.

**RECORDING** Audio/visual recordings require instructor's prior consent, or an approved accommodation plan. Do not distribute recordings publicly.

**GUESTS** Guests are not permitted without instructor's prior consent.

**INTEGRITY** Plagiarism is not tolerated. Ignorance is no excuse. Read:  
🌐 [web.uvic.ca/calendar2016-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2016-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html)

**SURVEY** Please complete a *course experience survey* (CES) at 🌐 [ces.uvic.ca](http://ces.uvic.ca).

**DISABILITY** Consult with the Resource Center and instructor at start of term.

## SCHEDULE

*Tentative: see website for updates. ('#<sub>a</sub>(#<sub>o</sub>)' give anthology and original pagination.)*

### EXISTENCE

JAN5	Introduction	
9	<i>no class</i>	
12	M1 • <a href="#">QUINE, "On What There is"</a>	to 11(29)

### RESEMBLANCE

JAN16	R8 † CONEE & SIDER, "Universals" M1 • <a href="#">QUINE, "On What There is"</a>	finish
19	M22 • <a href="#">CAMPBELL, "The Metaphysic of Abstract Particulars"</a>	
23	M24 • ARMSTRONG, "Universals as Attributes"	
26	M23 • <a href="#">LEWIS, "New Work for a Theory of Universals"</a>	to 2##(355)

### CAUSE

JAN30	R9 † CONEE & SIDER, "Possibility and Necessity" • <a href="#">HUME, A Treatise of Human Nature</a>	183-192 I.iii.2,14
	M23 • <a href="#">LEWIS, "New Work for a Theory of Universals"</a>	§ "Laws"
FEB2	M28 • ANSCOMBE, "Causality and Determination"	
6	• DAVIS, "Counterfactuals"	
9	M29 • <a href="#">LEWIS, "Causation"</a>	

### MODALITY

FEB20	R9 † CONEE & SIDER, "Possibility and Necessity" K • KRIPKE, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> M14 • PLANTINGA, "Modalities: Basic Concepts and Distinctions"	192-198 33-39 §1
23	M16 • LEWIS, "A Philosopher's Paradise"	skip §1.4
27	K • KRIPKE, <i>Naming and Necessity</i>	39-53
MAR2	K • KRIPKE, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> M19 • <a href="#">FINE, "Essence and Modality"</a>	106-116

### OBJECTS

MAR6	R7 † CONEE & SIDER, "Constitution" K • KRIPKE, <i>Naming and Necessity</i>	136-149 97-105
	M11 • <a href="#">GIBBARD, "Contingent Identity"</a>	§§1.4
9	M11 • <a href="#">GIBBARD, "Contingent Identity"</a>	§§5-8
13	• <a href="#">BAKER, "Why Constitution is not Identity"</a>	

### PERSISTENCE

MAR16	R7 † CONEE & SIDER, "Constitution" M35 • <a href="#">THOMSON, "Parthood and Identity Across Time"</a>	149-155 §§1.4
20	M37 • LEWIS, "The Problem of Temporary Intrinsic" M38 • <a href="#">HASLANGER, "Endurance and Temporary Intrinsic"</a>	
23	• <a href="#">FINE, "In Defense of Three-dimensionalism"</a>	

### SPACE & TIME

MAR27	R3 † CONEE & SIDER, "Time" • <a href="#">HINCHLIFE, "The Puzzle of Change"</a>	
30	• <a href="#">HAWLEY, "Metaphysics and Relativity"</a>	
APR3	• <a href="#">DASGUPTA, "Substantivalism vs. Relationalism About Space in Classical Physics"</a>	601-613