

COURSE DETAIL

INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Free University of Berlin

Program(s)

Free University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

104

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS

UCEAP Transcript Title

INTRO METAPHYSICS

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Metaphysics is one of the central areas of philosophy. Historically, it has been referred to as the study of "being qua being" and as "first philosophy" but has also been rejected as mere speculation or nonsense. Today, one might say that metaphysics is the systematic reflection on certain fundamental structures of reality and our place in it. The seminar introduces students to contemporary (analytic) metaphysics, focusing on a selection of six topics: free will; possibilities and possible worlds; laws of nature; ontology or "what there is"; properties, universals and realism; and the aims and possibility of metaphysics. The course reads and discusses classic texts from the 20th century as well as some very recent work. Each topic is addressed by two texts which take opposing stances, thus giving students an idea of the central debates. Many (but not all) texts are taken from Helen Beebe + Julian Dodd, "READING METAPHYSICS: SELECTED TEXTS WITH INTERACTIVE COMMENTARY," Blackwell 2007.

Language(s) of Instruction

Host Institution Course Number

16026

Host Institution Course Title

EINFÜHRUNG IN DIE METAPHYSIK

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

PHILOSOPHIE UND GEISTESWISSENSCHAFTEN

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Philosophie

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