

## Philosophy 863—Seminar: Metaphysics

Winter 2007

Instructor: Ben Caplan  
Time: W 6:30 – 9:18 PM  
Location: 353 University Hall  
Office: 337F University Hall  
Office hours: T R 3:30 – 4:30 PM, or by appointment  
Phone: 292.2479  
Email: caplan.16@osu.edu  
Webpage: <http://people.cohums.ohio-state.edu/caplan16/863.htm>

**Description and Readings:** The topic of the seminar is plenitude: roughly, the idea that reality is as full of objects as it can be. Although I am mainly interested in plenitudinous views about persistence and material constitution, we will begin by considering plenitudinous views about composition. We will read papers by Sosa, Yablo, Haslanger, Bennett, and Hawthorne. Hawthorne's *Metaphysical Essays* (Oxford: Clarendon, 2006) should be available in the bookstore. Other readings will be made available in a variety of ways: e.g. through Carmen (for published electronic material) or in the Philosophy Department main office (350 University Hall, for published non-electronic material). A detailed and updated outline will be posted on the course webpage.

**Requirements:** The course grade will be based on one seminar paper (10-15 pages), which will be due at the end of the quarter. Participation can help (but not hurt) your grade.

**Disabilities:** Students who might need accommodations are encouraged to contact me and the Office for Disability Services (150 Pomerene Hall, 292-3307).

**Academic misconduct:** Academic misconduct is a serious offense. You are responsible for knowing what counts as academic misconduct. You might want to consult the Code of Student Conduct or the Committee on Academic Misconduct:

[http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource\\_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp)  
and  
<http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html>.