

Philosophy 863—Seminar: Metaphysics

Winter 2009

Instructor: Ben Caplan
Time: W 3:30 – 6:18 PM
Location: 353 University Hall
Office: 337F University Hall
Office hours: T R 4:30 – 5:18 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: This is a seminar in ontology of art, understood as applied metaphysics rather than theoretical aesthetics. We'll focus on musical works. I'm interested in three questions: (1) What is the relation between musical works and performances of them? (2) Are musical works universals or particulars? (3) And are musical works individuated by the musico-historical context in which they're composed or by the instrumentation that composers specify? We'll read work by Julian Dodd, Jerrold Levinson, and Guy Rohrbaugh.

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
and
<http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html>.