

PIU33064 — Metaphysics

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU33064
Module Title	Metaphysics
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Jade Hadley
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5
Semester	2
Contact Hours	22

Module Content	
Module Description	Metaphysics is the study of reality, construed in the broadest possible sense. Our strategy in this course will be to investigate three intertwined topics in metaphysics: persistence, personal identity, and time. We will begin by thinking about how ordinary objects <i>persist</i>—that is, remain the same—across time. Are objects wholly present at every moment they exist, or are they extended through time as collections of different temporal parts? We will then apply these questions to the special case of human beings: what makes <i>you</i> the same person over time? What, if anything, connects you to the baby you once were, or the person you will become, given that these past, present, and future individuals have very different qualities? Finally, we will investigate the nature of time itself. What is time, does the past still exist, and is time travel possible?
Module Learning Aims	This module will offer an overview of some key topics in metaphysics.

Module Content

Learning Outcomes	Students will become familiar with the key metaphysical topics outlined in the module description, as well as develop core philosophical skills. Students will be encouraged to: deepen their understanding of argument mechanics by identifying philosophical arguments in a variety of texts, evaluate the persuasiveness of philosophical arguments, and write clearly, precisely, and persuasively in support of a philosophical position.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Readings will be made available at the start of the term.

Assessment

Assessment Components	1 essay (50%) 1 exam (50%)
Assessment Details	- 2,000-word essay to be written during term. - In-person end of term exam, comprising 2 questions, approximately 500 words each.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None.
Co-requisites	None.