

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Séminaire II : The Nature of Existence (2PH2116)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal M A - philosophie	Séminaire: 2 ph	oral: 30 min	5
Pilier secondaire M A - philosophie	Séminaire: 2 ph	oral: 30 min	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante:

Dr. Alexander Skiles; email: alexander.j.skiles@gmail.com
Dr. Akiko Frischhut; email: akiko.frischhut@gmail.com

Objectifs:

The aim of this course will be to bring us up to-date on recent literature addressing the nature of existence in contemporary analytic metaphysics (although with an eye towards precursors in the history of philosophy).

Contenu:

The questions we shall address will likely include: What is it for a thing to exist? Are there, or could there be, any non-existent things? Do different kinds of things exist in different ways? Are there any fundamental facts about what exists, and if so what is their logical form? Is there a fact of the matter about what exists in total?

Forme de l'évaluation:

All participants will be required to complete the readings each week and actively participate in discussion. Those taking the seminar for credit will in addition be asked to do two 10-15 min. presentations on a chosen topic of the course, a 20-30min oral exam at the end of the course and an essay of 3000-5000 words (10-15 pages). The final grade will be composed by participation (which includes presentations) (20%), oral exam (20%) and essay(60%).

Documentation:

We will read relevant articles by Carnap, Quine, Yablo, Hirsch, Thomasson, Sider, Fine, Berto, Vallicella, McDaniel, Turner, Caplan, Cotnoir & Edwards, Schaffer, Cameron, Bliss, Morganti, Barnes and Jenkins. All readings will be available either via online library subscriptions, or will be distributed by the instructors.