

Philosophy 2301 Introduction to Philosophy
Part Three: Metaphysics

Introduction:

- Why is something here rather than nothing at all?
- Why is that which is here the way that it is and not different?

I. Definitions and Issues

A. Definitions

1. Metaphysics
2. Ontology
3. Cosmology
4. Teleology
5. Monism
6. Dualism
7. Pluralism
8. Idealism
9. Materialism
10. Realism
11. Nominalism

B. Issues

1. Appearance and reality
2. One and the many (unity/diversity)
3. Being and becoming

4. Value of metaphysics (Pitirim Sorokin, *The Crisis of Our Age*, 1941)

II. Modern Alternatives to Metaphysics

A. Pragmatism

B. Phenomenology and existentialism

C. Logical positivism and analytic philosophy

D. Revolutionary philosophy