



Giorgio de Chirico - Piazza d'Italia

Philosophy 3700: INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS

TR 12:45-2:05pm

Spring 2022

with Professor Robert Kraut

The world is complex and mysterious. We will examine various metaphysical assumptions: that reality contains spiritual as well as physical entities; that consciousness is not a physical phenomenon; that there exist necessities in nature; that there exist abstract objects knowable through reason alone; that moral and aesthetic properties, like physical properties, are real; that finite beings can have knowledge of the world as it is in itself. Efforts will be made to clarify our concepts of possibility, necessity, causation, persistence, metaphysical dependency, identity, and mind-dependence.

Prerequisites: In addition to listed departmental prerequisites, students are strongly encouraged to have taken Symbolic Logic (2500) before enrolling in 3700.