

**Tentative syllabus**

Week 1: The paradoxes of coincidence

Sider: section 5.1  
van Inwagen: chapter 13, pp. 124–131

Week 2: Sortal-relative and temporally relative identity

George Myro, 'Identity and Time'  
Harry Deutsch, 'Relative Identity', entry in *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*  
John Hawthorne, 'Identity'  
*Optional*: Sider section 5.5, which presupposes Sider chapter 2.

Week 3: Wiggins on coincidence and sortals

David Wiggins, *Sameness and Substance Renewed*, chapters 2 and 3  
Kit Fine, 'A Counterexample to Locke's Thesis'  
Sider: section 5.3

Week 4: Temporal Parts: stating the view; the problem of temporary intrinsics

Sider: chapters 1 and 3; section 4.6  
David Lewis, *On the Plurality of Worlds*, short excerpt

Week 5: More arguments for and against temporal parts

Sider: sections 4.1 – 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, and chapter 6.

Week 6: Modal plenitudinism

Stephen Yablo, 'Identity, Essence and Indiscernability'  
Kit Fine, 'Things and their Parts'

Week 7: Context-sensitivity and the paradoxes

David Lewis, *On the Plurality of Worlds*, sections 4.1 and 4.5  
Sider: section 5.8  
Kit Fine, 'The Non-identity of a Thing and its Matter'

Week 8: The special composition question

*First short papers due this week, for those who are taking the short paper option*

van Inwagen: chapters 1 – 12  
Cian Dorr and Gideon Rosen, 'Composition as a Fiction'

Week 9: Causal arguments against composites

Trenton Merricks, *Objects and Persons*, chapter 3.

Week 10: The problem of the many

Peter Unger, 'The Problem of the Many'

? David Lewis, 'Many, But Almost One'

? Vann McGee and Brian McLaughlin, 'Lessons of the Many'  
van Inwagen, chapter 17

Week 11: Vague identity and vague existence

Gareth Evans, 'Can there be vague objects'

David Lewis, 'Vague Identity: Evans Misunderstood'

Sider: section 4.9

van Inwagen: chapters 18–19

Week 12: Metaontology 1

Sider: Introduction.

Eli Hirsch, 'Quantifier-Variance and Realism'

Week 13: Metaontology 2

? Dorr, 'What We Disagree About When We Disagree About Ontology'