

**Phil 231: Metaphysics and Epistemology:
Heidegger and Carnap**

Spring 2006

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Office hours: Mon., 11:00am–12:00pm; Thurs., 2:00pm–3:00pm (or by appointment).

Course Requirements

Participation in seminar. Final paper.

Texts

Carnap, *The Logical Structure of the World* (known, following its German title, as “the *Aufbau*”).

Cassirer, *Substance and Function* .

Friedman, *A Parting of the Ways: Carnap, Cassirer, and Heidegger*.¹

Heidegger, *Pathmarks*.

Husserl, *Ideas Pertaining to a Pure Phenomenology and to a Phenomenological Philosophy: First Book: General Introduction to a Pure Phenomenology*

Except as noted, the above texts should be available at the Literary Guillotine. In addition, there will be readings from Richardson, *Carnap's Construction of the World*. But I have not ordered copies of that (because it is quite expensive). The Cassirer text is also only in print in an expensive hardcover edition, but in that case the Literary Guillotine has attempted to round up used copies of the old Dover paperback, so it should be possible to buy one of those. Copies of both the Richardson and the Cassirer text will

¹As of now this appears to be out of print. It is on reserve at McHenry and the initial assignment is on e-reserve. We will discuss how to make sure everyone has access to later readings.

be placed on reserve at McHenry. Other readings not in any of these books will be made available as photocopies and/or on e-reserve.

Readings

Mon., Apr. 10: Carnap, “The Elimination of Metaphysics through Logical Analysis of Language” (note: the original German of this article can be found here); Cassirer, *Substance and Function*, ch. 1 (pp. 3–26); Friedman, *A Parting of the Ways*, Preface, ch. 1 and ch. 3 (pp. ix–xiv, 1–9, and 25–37).

Mon., Apr. 17: Cassirer, *Substance and Function*, ch. 2, §§I–III (pp. 27–54); ch. 3, §I (pp. 68–75); ch. 4, §§I–II (pp. 112–29); Richardson, *Carnap’s Construction*, ch. 4 (pp. 92–115); Friedman, *Parting of the Ways*, ch. 6 (pp. 87–110).

Mon., Apr. 24: Cassirer, *Substance and Function*, ch. 5, §§I–II (pp. 237–64); ch. 6, §§I–II (pp. 271–85); ch. 7 (pp. 309–25); Richardson, *Carnap’s Construction*, ch. 5–6 (pp. 116–58).

Mon., May 1: Husserl, *Ideas*, Introduction (pp. xvii–xxiii); §§1–17 (pp. 1–32), §27 (pp. 51–3), §§30–34 (pp. 56–62), §38 (pp. 78–80), §§42–3 (pp. 89–94); Stone, “Heidegger and Carnap on the Overcoming of Metaphysics,” Introduction and §1 (pp. 1–5).

Mon., May 8: Husserl, *Ideas*, §§44–46 (pp. 94–107), §55 (pp. 128–30), §138 (pp. 331–3), §§142–3 (pp. 340–43), §§149–52 (pp. 355–66); Sarkar, “Husserl’s Role in Carnap’s *Der Raum*”; Stone, “The Continental Origins of Verificationism: Natorp, Husserl and Carnap on the Object as Infinitely Determinable X.”

Mon., May 15: Heidegger, “What is Metaphysics?”, first two parts (in *Pathmarks*, pp. 82–9); Friedman, *Parting of the Ways*, ch. 4 (pp. 39–62) and ch. 8 (pp. 129–144); Stephan Käufer, “On Heidegger on Logic”; James Conant, “Two Conceptions of *Die Überwindung der Metaphysik*: Carnap and Early Wittgenstein.”

Mon., May 22: Heidegger. “What is Metaphysics?”, last part (in *Pathmarks*, pp. 89–96); *Being and Time*, §7 (pp. 49–63); §35 (pp. 211–14); §44b, second (very short) paragraph, beginning “In citing . . .” (p. 262); §§56–

7 (pp. 317–25); Witherspoon, “Much Ado about the Nothing”; Stone, “Heidegger and Carnap on the Overcoming of Metaphysics,” §2 (pp. 6–11).

Fri., May 26 (9:00am): Carnap, *Aufbau*, §§1–5 (pp. 5–10); §§10–16 (pp. 19–30); §§17–19 (pp. 31–4); §23 (pp. 39–40); §§27–31 (pp. 48–56); §§38–41 (pp. 65–70); §§54–60 (pp. 88–97); §§99–105 (pp. 156–66); Friedman, *Parting of the Ways*, ch. 5 (pp. 63–86); Richardson, *Carnap’s Construction*, ch. 1–2 (pp. 5–64).

Mon., May 29: **no class** (holiday).

Wed., May 31 (12:00pm): Carnap, *Aufbau*, Preface to the first edition (pp. xv–xviii); §§153–6 (pp. 234–46); §§175–83 (pp. 281–98); Friedman, *Parting of the Ways*, ch. 7 (pp. 111–28); Richardson, *Carnap’s Construction*, ch. 8 (pp. 183–206); Stone, “Heidegger and Carnap on the Overcoming of Metaphysics,” §3 (pp. 11–18).

Mon., June 5: Carnap, “Elimination of Metaphysics” (again); Heidegger, “Postscript to ‘What is Metaphysics?’” (*Pathmarks*, pp. 231–8); “Introduction to ‘What is Metaphysics?’” (*Pathmarks*, pp. 277–90); Friedman, *Parting of the Ways*, ch. 1–2 (pp. 1–24); Stone, “Heidegger and Carnap on the Overcoming of Metaphysics,” §4 (pp. 18–24).