

**PHIL\*6200-01**

**PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY**

**Instructor:** M. McCullagh

**Brief Course Synopsis:**

Our topic is the nature of philosophy, a question on which---of course---philosophers disagree. We'll read two recent and very provocative books on this. First we'll read Frank Jackson's *From Metaphysics to Ethics*, which is a vigorous defense of the idea that philosophy is conceptual analysis. Then we'll read Timothy Williamson's *The Philosophy of Philosophy*, in which he argues that "philosophy is in no deep sense a linguistic or conceptual inquiry" and sketches "a new narrative structure... for this history of philosophy since 1960".

**Textbook(s):**

Frank Jackson, *From Metaphysics to Ethics*

Timothy Williamson, *The Philosophy of Philosophy*

**Course Requirements/Evaluation:**

To be announced on first day of class