

*St Mary's College*  
Department of Philosophy

**Course Title:** Metaphysics

**Course Number:** PHI 301: Metaphysics

**Term:** Fall 2024 (MWF 10:25-11:15; RM 301)

**Professor:** Fr Jonathan Loop

**Email:** [jloop@smac.edu](mailto:jloop@smac.edu)

**Required Materials**

*Commentary on Aristotle's Metaphysics* by St Thomas Aquinas

**Course Description and Purpose Statement**

This course serves as an introduction to the study of first principles of being.

Students will demonstrate their grasp of these fundamental principles of reality in class discussion and written compositions.

**Grading Policy**

Essay: 30%

Midterm Exam: 25%

Final Exam: 30%

Quizzes: 5%

Class Participation: 10%

Late assignments will be accepted but will be assessed a penalty.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to be present at all lectures. All reasonable and foreseen absences (e.g., marriage in family) should be discussed with the professor prior to the absence. In this case, and in the case where a student misses a lecture due to illness, the student will be responsible for any reading and will be expected to obtain notes from a classmate.

## **Course Schedule**

Week 1: 4-6 September

Introduction & Prologue

Week 2: 9-13 September

Prologue & Book 1, Lesson 1

Week 3: 16-20 September

Book 1, Lesson 1

Week 4: 23-27 September

Book 1, Lesson 2

Week 5: 30 September – 4 October

Book 1, Lesson 3

Week 6: 7-11 October

Book 2, Lessons 1-2

Week 7: 14-18 October

Book 2, Lessons 2-3

Week 8: 21-25 October

Book 2, Lessons 4-5

Week 9: 28 October – 1 November

Book 4, Lesson 1 (Discussion of Analogy)

Week 10: 4-8 November:

Discussion of Analogy

Week 11: 11-15 November

Book 4, Lesson 2

Week 12: 18-22 November

Book 4, Lessons 3 & 5

Week 13: 25-29 November

Book 4, Lessons 6 & 7

Week 14: 2-6 December

Book 5, Lessons 10 & 15

Week 15: 9-13 December

Book 5, Lesson 16 & 17

Week 16: 16-18 December

Final Examinations