

# Graduate Proseminar

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Professor: Matthew Fulkerson  
email: mfulkerson@ucsd.edu

Office: HSS 873  
Office Hours: by appt

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## Course Description:

This course will involve a close reading of Carnap's *Aufbau* and Chalmers's *Constructing the World*. In addition, it will serve as an introduction to advanced philosophical writing and research methods.

## Required Texts:

The Carnap and Chalmers. Additional readings will be made available in class.

**Writing Assignments:** Students are expected to read each selection prior to class (preferably more than once). You should take notes while reading, keeping track of questions or issues that arise. For each class, you will be asked to write a 1-2 page response paper on an issue raised by the reading. This can be a question, a reply, an elaboration, or a challenge. The response must be clear, typed, and substantive (more than a recap our outline).

## Grading:

There will be 10 writing assignments, each worth 10% of your final grade.

## Course Policies:

To avoid penalties for late assignments, students must provide official documentation explaining why the assignment could not be handed in on time. Late writing assignments without documentation will not be accepted. Late papers without documentation will receive a late penalty of 1/3 letter grade for each day late, including weekend days (no exceptions).

## **Tentative Reading Schedule (subject to change):**

### Part 1: Carnap

- Week 1  
Introduction, background, format, etc.  
Carnap, Part I and II
- Week 2:  
Carnap, Part III
- Week 3:  
Carnap, Part IV
- Week 4:  
Carnap, Part V

### Part 2: Chalmers

- Week 5:  
Chalmers, Intro, Ch. 1
- Week 6:  
Chalmers, Chs 2, 3,
- Week 7:  
Chalmers, Ch 4, 5
- Week 8:  
Chalmers, Ch 6
- Week 9:  
NO CLASS Thanksgiving
- Week 10:  
Chalmers, 7
- Week 11:  
Chalmers, 8