Colorado Summer Seminar in Philosophy (Philosophy 5800) **Universals** July 2000

Tentative Schedule

Week One

July 10: Introduction (Christopher Shields)

July 11-12: Plato (Gabriela Carone)

July 13: Aristotle (Robert Pasnau)

July 14: Against Plato: Aristotle's "Peri Ideon" [On Ideas] (Christopher Shields)

Week Two

July 17-18: Scotus and Ockham (Robert Pasnau)

July 19: Russell (Michael Huemer)

July 20-21: Nominalism and Realism (Graham Oddie)

Week Three

July 24: Oddie Continued.

July 25-26: Platonism Revived (George Bealer)

July 27: Laws of Nature (Michael Tooley)

July 28: Conclusion (Robert Pasnau)

Readings

Two books are required: You should order these at your local independent bookstore, or wherever.

Paul Spade, Five Texts on Universals (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1994).

David M. Armstrong, Universals: An Opinionated Introduction (Boulder: Westview, 1989).

All of the other readings will be assembled into a course packet, and mailed to you (free of charge!) once you register for the class.

It will be absolutely essential for you to have read all this material before arriving for the seminar. Readings will average maybe 50 hard pages a day, and you'll never have the time or energy (after meeting all morning) to master all of this material in the afternoon and evening.

Course Work

Two 5-page papers will be required: the first on Monday July 17th, the second on Monday, July 24th. In addition, to receive credit for the course, you must submit by August 31st a term-paper, which may be an expanded and revised version of one of the two short papers.

The heart and soul of this seminar will be neither reading nor writing (the bulk of which you should be doing before you come and after you leave town), but rather thinking and talking about philosophy, during and between seminar meetings. We will insist that you participate actively in the seminar, and we will urge you to hang out between meetings with your fellow seminarians, talking about philosophy, art, life, politics, whatever.