Propuesta de curso o seminario

1. Nombre del profesor: Martin Glazier

2. Nombre del curso o seminario: Explanation and ground

3. Campos de conocimiento en los que podría ser anunciado (máximo dos):
   - Metafísica
   - Filosofía de la Ciencia

4. Breve descripción del curso (temas y objetivos):

Many philosophers now recognize a distinctively metaphysical form of explanation which we might call ‘grounding explanation’. Such explanation, philosophers in this tradition hold, is central to debates over physicalism, over the relation of mind to body, over morality’s place in the world, over the nature of metaphysics, and many others besides. But what is grounding explanation, and what must the world be like in order for it to exist? This course will center on these questions. Among other things, we will ask: can grounding explanation be understood on the model of causal or scientific explanation? Does it track worldly ‘grounding relations’? Does it require laws? Is it unified?

Objetivo general:

Students will understand contemporary debates over grounding explanation.

Objetivos particulares:

Students will
   1. understand some major theories of scientific explanation and consider their application to grounding explanation,
   2. grasp the notions of ground and grounding explanation and the arguments for their philosophical centrality,
   3. compare and contrast grounding and causation,
   4. consider methodological questions concerning theoretical posits, and
   5. consider what grounding explanation might require of the world.

Temas:

Week 1: The DN account of scientific explanation
Week 2: The causal and unification accounts of scientific explanation
Week 3: The difference-makin-g and pragmatic accounts of scientific explanation
Week 4: Explanatory realism
Week 5: Classic papers on ground
Week 6: Some applications of ground
Week 7: Are all metaphysical explanations grounding explanations?
Week 8: Is ground a strict partial order?
Week 9: Is grounding explanation backed by grounding relations?
Week 10: Is grounding like causation?
Week 11: Laws of metaphysics
Week 12: Is ground unified?
Week 13: Can we have grounding explanation without ground?
Week 14: Is ground real?

5. Bibliografía (obligatoria y complementaria):

Obligatoria:


Complementaria:


6. Criterios de evaluación:

Students will be assessed on the basis of class presentations and a seminar paper. The language of instruction and evaluation is English.

7. Propuesta de día y horario:

Thursdays 3 – 7 pm

8. Sede: IIFs