

Philosophy of Space and Time
Fall, 2016
P. Bricker

Possible Writing Assignment

About two pages. Due Thursday, October. 6 before class so that we can discuss it. Best is to send it as an attachment to: bricker@philos.umass.edu.

Consider the hypothesis that there is a part of the physical universe that is spatially and causally disconnected from the part we inhabit. (So we cannot travel there, or see it with our telescopes, etc.) Discuss how a reductionaist (aka positivist) might respond to this hypothesis. Discuss how an anti-reductionist (aka realist) might respond. Does it matter what we take to be the “observation basis”? Explain.