In 1927, Martin Heidegger gave a lecture course which most scholars now recognize as the conclusion of his unfinished masterpiece, Being and Time. The course, titled “Basic Problems of Phenomenology” is a systematic deconstruction of the history of ontology, beginning with Aristotle, and ending with Kant. Through his now legendary method of “violent interpretation,” Heidegger reduces all Western ontological concepts to expressions of the human existential situation. In this graduate seminar, we will read the whole book. Students do not need to have previous knowledge of Heidegger.

Instructor: Sean J. McGrath

First meeting: Wednesday 4 September: 3:30 pm