

# WHAT IS METAPHYSICS?

Ted Sider, *Metaphysics*

**Ontology:** the study of what, fundamentally, exists in the world

**Ontological scheme:** a list of the fundamental categories of entities that is exhaustive — that is, every entity fits in somewhere on the list

## A SAMPLE ONTOLOGICAL SCHEME:

1. Physical objects
2. Events
3. Laws of nature
4. Properties
5. Places and times
6. Mathematical objects (numbers, sets, etc.)
7. God
8. People