

PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM

Mark Johnston
Princeton University

"The Impossibility of Your Own Death"
Thursday, March 12, 2009

Paper: 3:30 P.M.; Learning Center, Room 194
Refreshments: 5:30 P.M.; Ashe Building, Room 735

"Why You Have Never Really Existed"
Friday, March 13, 2009

Paper: 3:30 P.M.; Learning Center, Room 194
Refreshments: 5:30 P.M.; Ashe Building, Room 735

Mark Johnston is currently Walter Cerf *41 Professor of Philosophy at Princeton University, where he has been a member of the Philosophy Department since 1983. He is the author of influential papers in virtually every major field of philosophy, including ethics, the philosophy of mind, metaphysics and philosophical logic. His most recent work includes "The Obscure Object of Hallucination" *Philosophical Studies*, 2004, "Hylomorphism" *Journal of Philosophy*, 2006, and "Constitution" in the *Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy*, 2007. In 2006 he delivered the Carl G. Hempel Lectures at Princeton under the title "Surviving Death".

Abstract

Contrary to what many have assumed what really matters in caring about your future existence is not primarily personal identity but self-identity. What is the self? I argue that it is a merely virtual object. The two lectures will explore the consequences of this.



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