I. Administrative
   A. Presentation this Thursday
   B. Discussion of class responses
   C. General questions?

II. Parting Thoughts & Questions on Kripke & Kaplan

III. The Metaphysics of Meaning: The Big Picture
   A. What is metaphysics, exactly?
   B. Conceptually mapping the philosophy of language: epistemology, metaphysics, value theory(?)
   C. Metaphysical questions and their relevance
      1. The nature of meaning (or intensions, more specifically)
      2. Semantic relations
      3. The nature of referents (or extensions)
      4. The nature of linguistic items

IV. The Metaphysics of Meaning: Propositions and Possible Worlds
   A. Propositions are “bearers of truth, semantic contents of sentences, and that which we assert, believe, and know”, while possible worlds are “ways the world could have been” and “parameters to which the truth are relativized”
B. Metaphysical questions about propositions and possible worlds

1. Are there any?

2. If so, what are they? (What they are not, according to Soames: concrete, alternative realities)

3. How are they related? For example, is one of them explanatorily privileged over the other?

C. Soames’ View of Propositions

1. ToM’s that don’t require propositions (Davidson and others) FAIL – these try to make truth theories do the work of meaning theories. ⇒

2. SO propositions are needed. ⇒
   a. We could go with a traditional theory (e.g., Frege, Russell) OR a naturalistic theory. ⇒
   b. Traditional theories FAIL. ⇒
   c. SO we go with a naturalistic theory. ⇒
      i. We could go with a deflationary theory or a cognitive-realist theory. ⇒
      ii. Deflationary theories FAIL. ⇒
      iii. SO we opt for a cognitive-realist theory.

D. Soames’ View of Possible Worlds

1. They are better thought of as possible world-states

2. These are understood in terms of sets of propositions (124)

3. These pick out the epistemic possibilities, and relative to actuality, we get a distinction between metaphysical possibility and metaphysical impossibility (124-5).

E. Arguments