

PHILOSOPHY OF MIND
PHL XXX
FALL/SPRING 2XXX
JAN. 9nd – MAY 2nd¹

Professor: Dr. Kevin J. Kukla

- MEETING TIME: TBA
- OFFICE: TBA
- OFFICE HOURS: TBA
- OFFICE PHONE: TBA
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Final Exam: TBA

Texts:

- *Philosophy of Mind: Classical & Contemporary Readings (2002)* – Ed. David Chalmers. I will use the letters ‘CC’ to refer to this text.
- *Philosophy of Mind: A Contemporary Introduction (2004)* – John Heil. I will use the letters ‘CI’ to refer to this text.
- *Philosophical Writing: An Introduction (1997)* – A.P. Martinich
- Some readings are on reserve. I will refer to these readings with the letters ‘Res’.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to some classic and current problems in philosophy of mind. We will cover the following topics: the mind/body problem; the problem of interaction; behaviorism; the identity theory; functionalism; the representational theory of mind; propositional attitudes; eliminativism; consciousness; and qualia.

¹This document was written in L^AT_EX.

Evaluation

- 3 Papers: 75%
- Short Writing Assignments: 15%
- Attendance & Participation: 10%

Attendance

You are allowed no more than 4 unexcused absences to be eligible for full participation/attendance consideration. Any undocumented absence beyond your fourth will result in 0% for your attendance/participation grade. Additionally, tardiness and sleeping in class is equivalent to an absence.

Participation

Students are expected to attend class prepared to discuss critically the assigned readings. If ever the class fails to prepare adequately for class, I reserve the right to administer a quiz for that day.

Grading Scale

- **A+** = 97 - 100%
- **A** = 93 - 96%
- **A-** = 90 - 92%
- **B+** = 87 - 89%
- **B** = 83 - 86%
- **B-** = 80 - 82%
- **C+** = 77 - 79%
- **C** = 73 - 76%
- **C-** = 70 - 72%
- **D+** = 67 - 69%
- **D** = 63 - 66%
- **D-** = 60 - 62%
- **F** = < 60%

Electronic Devices

All electronic devices must be turned off before class begins. If a student's electronic device sounds during class, the student will be counted absent for that day.

Disability Access

Students with disabilities should register with the Office of Disability Services, 205/348.4285. They should then provide the instructor with appropriate documentation and written requests regarding special accommodations. Students who wish to discuss such accommodations are invited to schedule appointments during the instructor's office hours.

Code of Misconduct

The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

All students in attendance at the University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student.

TENTATIVE READING SCHEDULE

WEEK	READING(S)	TOPIC
1	<p>HAN: <i>Philosophy of Mind</i></p> <p>HAN: Propositional Logic</p> <p>CI: Chapter 1</p>	<p>What is Philosophy of Mind? Propositional Logic</p>
2/3/4	<p>CC: <i>Meditations on First Philosophy (II & IV)</i>, René Descartes, pp. 10 – 21</p> <p>RES: <i>Two Cartesian Arguments for the Simplicity for the Soul</i>, Dean W. Zimmerman <i>American Philosophical Quarterly</i>, 28(3), pp. 217 – 226</p> <p>CI: Chapter 2 & 3</p> <p>RES: <i>Lonely Souls: Causality and Substance Dualism</i>, Jaegwon Kim, in <i>Soul, Body, and Survival: Essays on the Metaphysics of Human Persons</i> (Cornell University Press: 2001), pp. 30 – 43</p>	<p>Substance Dualism The Problem of Interaction</p>
5	<p>CI: Chapter 5</p> <p>CC: <i>Descartes' Myth</i>, Gilbert Ryle, pp. 32 – 38</p> <p><i>Brains & Behaviour</i>, Hilary Putnam, pp. 45 – 54</p>	<p>Behaviorism</p>

TENTATIVE READING SCHEDULE (Continued)

WEEK	READING(S)	TOPIC
6/7	<p>CI: <i>Chapter 6</i></p> <p>CC: <i>Is Consciousness a Brain Process</i>, U.T. Place, pp. 55 – 60</p> <p><i>Sensations & Brain Processes</i>, J.J.C. Smart, pp. 60 – 68</p> <p>RES: <i>Mad Pain & Martian Pain</i>, David Lewis, in <i>Philosophical Papers v.1</i> (Oxford University Press: 1983)</p>	<p>The Identity Theory</p> <p>PAPER 1 DUE AT THE END OF THE 6th WEEK</p>
8/9	<p>CI: <i>Chapter 7</i></p> <p>CC: <i>The Nature of Mental States</i>, Hilary Putnam, pp. 73 – 79</p> <p><i>The Causal Theory of Mind</i>, David M. Armstrong, pp. 80 – 87</p> <p>RES: <i>Reduction of Mind</i>, David K. Lewis, <i>Papers in Metaphysics & Epistemology</i> (Cambridge University Press: 1999)</p> <p>CC: <i>Troubles with Functionalism</i>, Ned Block, pp. 94 – 98</p>	<p>Functionalism</p>
10/11/(SPRING BREAK)/12	<p>CI: <i>Chapter 8</i></p> <p>RES: <i>Representational Systems</i>, Fred Dretske, in <i>Explaining Behavior: Reasons in a World of Causes</i> (MIT Press: 1998), pp. 52 – 77</p> <p><i>Minds, Brains, & Programs</i>, John. R. Searle, <i>Behavioral and Brain Sciences</i> 3(3), pp. 417 – 424</p>	<p>The Representational Theory of Mind</p> <p>PAPER 2 DUE AT THE END OF THE 10th WEEK</p>

TENTATIVE READING SCHEDULE (Continued)

WEEK	READING(S)	TOPIC
13/14	<p>CI: <i>Chapter 12</i></p> <p>CC: <i>Propositional Attitudes</i>, Jerry A. Fodor, pp. 542 – 555</p> <p><i>True Believers: The Intentional Strategy & Why it Works</i>, Daniel Dennett, pp. 556 – 568</p> <p><i>Eliminative Materialism and the Propositional Attitudes</i>, Paul Churchland, pp. 568 – 580</p>	Propositional Attitudes & Eliminativism
15/16/17	<p>CI: <i>Chapter 9</i></p> <p>CC: <i>Concepts of Consciousness</i>, Ned Block, pp. 206 – 218</p> <p><i>What is it Like to Be a Bat?</i>, Thomas Nagel, pp. 219 – 226</p> <p>RES: <i>What Mary Didn't Know</i>, Frank Jackson, <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i>, 1986, 83(5), pp. 291 – 295</p> <p>CC: <i>What Experience Teaches</i>, David Lewis, pp. 281 – 294</p> <p><i>Materialism & Qualia: The Explanatory Gap</i>, Joseph Levine, pp. 354 – 361</p> <p><i>Can We Solve the Mind-Body?</i>, Colin McGinn, pp. 394 – 405</p>	<p>Consciousness Qualia Materialism</p> <p>PAPER 3 IS DUE DURING FINALS WEEK</p>