

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
*School of Arts & Science*  
*Humanities*

**Phil. 207-1, Philosophy of Mind**  
**Fall, 2004**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**1. Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. Justine Noel

Office hours: Daily (except Mondays) 1:30-2:30 pm, Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 am.

Office location: Young 312

Phone: 370-3518 Email: noelju@camosun.bc.ca

**2. Course Schedule:**

Lectures: Tuesdays 11:30-12:20 pm (Y-300), and Thursdays 11:30-12:20 pm (Y-300)

Seminars: Group A – Tuesdays, 12:30-1:20 pm (Y-310)

Group B - Thursdays, 12:30-1:20 pm (Y-300)

**3. Intended Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course students should be able to

- a) explain the central problems in contemporary Philosophy of Mind
- b) describe the fundamental theories of the nature of consciousness
- c) compare the various theories studied, for example, Functionalism, Materialism, Property Dualism, Behaviorism
- d) critically analyze philosophical arguments concerning the nature of mind
- e) take a position in the debate and provide good reasons to support that position

**4. Text:** The Place of Mind, Brian Cooney, Wadsworth

**5. Course Requirements:**

Midterm exam: 30% (in class, Oct.19)

Final exam: 30% (date tba, final exam period)

Essay: 20% (due no later than Dec.7)

Participation 10%

Homework assignments: 10% (one throwaway)

## 6) Reading Assignments

### **Week 1: Introduction**

09/7 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind

09/9 Intro. "The Place of Mind in a Scientific Universe", p.1

### **Week 2: Materialism**

09/14 Gilbert Ryle, "Descartes' Myth", p.31

09/16 U.T. Place, "Is Consciousness a Brain Process?" p.77

### **Week 3: Eliminative Materialism**

09/21 Video on Brains and Consciousness

09/23 Paul Churchland, "Eliminative Materialism", p.130

### **Week 4: Functionalism**

09/28 David Armstrong, "The Nature of Mind", p.136

09/30 Jerry Fodor, "Materialism", p.146

### **Week 5: Functionalism, cont.**

10/5 John Haugeland, "Ontological Supervenience", p.156

10/7 Video on Consciousness and Artificial Intelligence

### **Week 6: Minds and Computers**

10/12 Harper's Magazine, "Our Machines, Ourselves", p.193

10/14 Richard White, "Some Basic Concepts of Computability Theory", p.204

### **Week 7: Minds and Computers cont.**

10/19 **Mid-Term Examination**

10/21 Hilary Putnam, "The Nature of Mental States", p.219

### **Week 8: Minds and Computers cont.**

10/26 Jerry Fodor, "Methodological Solipsism...", p.228

10/28 John Searle, "Do Minds Compute?", p.248

### **Week 9: Intentionality**

11/2 Daniel Dennett, "Intentional Systems", p.290

11/4 Fred Dretske, "If You Can't Make One...", p.306

### **Week 10: Consciousness and Qualia**

11/9 Thomas Nagel, "What is it Like to Be a Bat?", p.321

11/11 No class, (Remembrance Day)

### **Week 11: Consciousness and Qualia cont.**

11/16 Frank Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia", p.340

11/18 Video on the Mind/Body Problem

**Week 12: Consciousness and Qualia cont.**

11/23 David Chalmers, "Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness", p.382

11/25 Video on the Relation between Consciousness and Mathematics

**Week 13: Selves**

11/30 Derek Parfit, selections from Reasons and Persons, p.444

12/2 Thomas Nagel, "Brain Bisection and the Unity of Consciousness", p.454

**Week 14: Selves cont.**

12/7 Daniel Dennett, "Why Everyone is a Novelist", p.466

12/9 Review

**7.** Policy on late essays and assignments: late papers and assignments will receive a zero except in cases of illness or personal crisis.

**8.** Policy on missed exams: make-up exams are permitted in cases of illness or personal crisis only. A make-up exam will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

**9. Grading System**

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%

B = 75 - 79%

D = 50 - 59%

A = 90 - 94%

B- = 70 - 74%

F = 0.0 - 49%

A- = 85 - 89%

C+ = 65 - 69%

B+ = 80 - 84%

C = 60 - 64%

**10. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course**

**LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

**ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY**

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

