



**School of Arts & Science  
HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

**PHIL 207-001  
Philosophy of Mind  
2008 Fall**

## COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ \_\_\_\_\_

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.  
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Justine Noel		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues.-Thurs. 1:30-2:30 pm, Fri. 12:30-1:30 pm		
(c)	Location:	Y 312		
(d)	Phone:	370-3951	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify the key issues being debated by contemporary philosophers of mind.
2. Assess the differences among the fundamental theories of the nature of consciousness.
3. Subject these theories to critical examination.
4. Write about and discuss the importance of this area of philosophical research activity to our understanding of the complexities of the human mind.

### 3. Required Materials

(a) Texts: The Blackwell Companion to Consciousness

(b) Mind: A Brief Introduction, John Searle

#### Course Content and Schedule

Lectures: Wednesdays, 10:30 am -11:20 am (Y-325)  
Fridays, 10:30 am -11:20 am (Y-325)

Seminars: Group A – Wednesdays, 11:30 am -12:20 pm (Y-325)  
Group B - Fridays, 11:30 am -12:20 pm (Y-325)

### **Week 1: Problems in the Philosophy of Mind**

09/3 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind

09/5 Searle, 1

### **Week 2: Materialism**

09/10 Searle, 2 – video: “Mindtalk: the Brain’s New Story”

09/12 Searle, 2, **QUIZ #1**

Seminar: Searle

### **Week 3: The Domain of Consciousness**

09/17 “Philosophical Problems of Consciousness”, p.23

09/19 “Machine Consciousness”, p.87

Seminar: “Rethinking the Evolution of Consciousness”, p.72

### **Week 4: Varieties of Conscious Experience**

09/24 “Clinical Pathologies and Unusual Experiences”, p.130

09/26 “Altered States of Consciousness: Drug-induced States”, p.141, **QUIZ #2**

Seminar: “Mystical Experience”, p.163

### **Week 5: Breakdowns and the Unity of Consciousness**

10/1 “The Case of Blindsight”, p.175

10/3 “Split-brain Cases”, p.181

Seminar: “Philosophical Psychopathology...”, p.194

### **Week 6: Contemporary Theories of Consciousness**

10/8 “The Hard Problem of Consciousness”, p.225, “Daniel Dennett...”, p.313

10/10 **\*\*Mid-term exam\*\***

Seminar: video

### **Week 7: Contemporary Theories of Consciousness, cont.**

10/15 “Quantum Mechanical Theories...”, p.300

10/17 “Biological Naturalism”, p.325, **QUIZ #3**

Seminar: “Mysterianism”, p.335

### **Week 8: Major Topics in the Philosophy of Consciousness**

10/22 “Anti-materialist Arguments...”, p.371

10/24 “Functionalism and Qualia”, p.381

Seminar: video

### **Week 9: Major Topics in the Science of Consciousness**

10/29 “Inattentional Blindness...”, p.504, **QUIZ #4**

10/31 “Preconscious Processing”, p.512

Seminar: video

## **5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)**

Midterm exam: 25%

Final exam: 35% (date tba, final exam period)

Essay: 20% (due no later than Dec.6, the last day of class)

Participation: 10%

Quizzes: 10% (6 quizzes, 2% each - one throwaway)

## 6. Grading System

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

### Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

## 7. 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, at Student Services or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

### **STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY**

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED**