

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT PHIL 207-01 Philosophy of Mind

Fall, 2014

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:30-12:30, Tuesday and		
	Thursday, 1:30-2:30		
Office	Young 312		
Phone	(250) 370-3951		
Email	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		

## **Course Schedule**

**Lectures**: Tuesdays, 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm (E-346)

Thursdays, 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm (E-346)

**Seminars:** Group A: Tuesdays, 3:30 pm -4:20 pm (E-346)

Group B: Thursdays, 3:30 pm -4:20 pm (E-346)

## **Intended Learning Outcomes:**

- 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.

Text: Consciousness: An Introduction, Susan Blackmore, Oxford UP

## **Course Requirements:**

3 Tests: 45% (15% each)

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

Attendance in seminars: 5%

Position paper: 10% (due last day of class)

Seminar Discussion Leader: 5%

## **Reading Assignments**

# Week 1: Problems in the Philosophy of Mind

9/2 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind

9/4 Section 1:1

Seminar: Sign up for seminar discussion leader dates

## Week 2: Problems cont.

9/9 Section 1:2 9/11 Section 1:3

Seminar: "Mary the Colour Scientist", p.23, Nagel's bat, p.18-21

## Week 3: The World

9/16 Section 2:4

9/18 Section 2:6

Seminar: Change Blindness and Inattentional Blindness, p.93-97

## Week 4: The Self

9/23 **TEST #1** 

9/25 Section 3:7

Seminar: "The Teletransporter", p.119

#### Week 5: The Self cont.

9/30 Section 3:8

10/2 Section 3:9

Seminar: "Who is Conscious Now?" p.106

## Week 6: The Brain, Evolution

10/7 Section 4:11

10/9 Sections 5.13

Seminar: "The Sentience Line": p.219

## Week 7: Evolution cont.

10/14 Section 5:14

10/16 Section 5:15

Seminar: "Is this a meme?", p.253

## **Week 8: Artificial Consciousness**

10/21 **TEST #2** 

10/23 Section 6:17

Seminar: Documentary – "Human V2.0"

#### Week 9: Artificial Consciousness cont.

10/28 Section 6:18

10/30 Section 6:18 cont.

Seminar: "Kismet the Sociable Robot", p.289

#### Week 10: Borderlands

11/4 Section 7: 19 11/6 Section 7: 20

Seminar: "The Concept of Flow", p.317-318

#### Week 11: Borderlands cont.

11/11 Remembrance Day, no class

11/13 Section 7: 21

## **Week 12: Altered States of Consciousness**

11/18 **TEST #3** 

11/20 Section 8:22

Seminar: "Discussing ASC's", p.369

#### Week 13: Altered States of Consciousness cont.

11/25 Section 8: 23 12/27 Section 8: 24

Seminar: "Inducing Lucid Dreams", p.386

## **Week 14: First-Person Approaches**

12/2 Section 9: 25

12/4 Section 9: 26, Review for final exam, paper due

Seminar: Section 9: 27, "Mindfulness", p.449

The course description is online @ http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.html

#### **Grading System**

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

## Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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. (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.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: 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.

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 <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

## 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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED