

School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT PHIL 207 Philosophy of Mind

Fall/2015

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays, 1:00 - 1:50 pm, Wednesdays, 11:00 - 11:50 am,		
	Thursdays, 12:00 - 1:50 pm.		
Office	Young 312		
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Course Schedule

Lectures: Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 10:50 am (F-212)

Thursdays, 10:00 am - 10:50 am (F-336)

Seminars: Group A: Tuesdays, 11:00 am -11:50 am (F-212)

Group B: Thursdays, 11:00 am -11:50 am (F-336)

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, 2nd ed., Susan Blackmore, Oxford UP

Course Requirements:

3 Tests: 45% (15% each)

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

Attendance in seminars: 5% Seminar Discussion Leader: 5%

Homework: 15% (must be submitted while attending the relevant class)

Reading Assignments

Week 1: Problems in the Philosophy of Mind

9/8 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind

9/10 Section 1:1

Seminar: Sign up for seminar discussion leader dates

Week 2: Problems cont.

9/15 Section 1:1 cont.

9/17 Section 1:2

Seminar: "Am I conscious now?", p.4, and "What is it like being me now?" p.21

Week 3: The World

9/22 Section 2:4

9/24 Section 2:6

Seminar: "Where is this experience?", p.53

Week 4: The Self

9/29 **TEST #1**

10/1 Section 3:7

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

Week 5: The Self cont.

10/6 Section 3:8

10/8 Section 3:9

Seminar: "The Teletransporter", p.119, "Am I the same me as a moment ago?", p.123

Week 6: The Brain, Evolution

10/13 Section 4:11

10/15 Sections 5.13

Seminar: "Is this experience unified?", p.171

Week 7: Evolution cont.

10/20 Section 5:14

10/22 Section 5:15

Seminar: "The Sentience Line": p.219, "Is this a meme?", p.233

Week 8: Artificial Consciousness

10/27 **TEST #2**

10/29 Section 6:17

Seminar: "Is this machine conscious?", p.278

Week 9: Artificial Consciousness cont.

11/3 Section 6:18

11/5 Section 6:18 cont.

Seminar: "What is it that is conscious?", p.293

Week 10: Borderlands

11/10 Section 7: 19 11/12 Section 7: 20

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

Week 11: Borderlands cont.

11/17 Section 7:21

11/19 Section 7: 21 cont.

Seminar:"Living without psi", p.353

Week 12: Altered States of Consciousness

11/24 **TEST #3**

11/26 Section 8:22

Seminar: "Is this my normal state of consciousness?", p.358

Week 13: Altered States of Consciousness cont.

12/1 Section 8: 23 12/3 Section 8: 24

Seminar: "Becoming Lucid", p.387, "What survives?", p.400

Week 14: First-Person Approaches

12/8 Section 9: 25

12/10 Section 9: 26, Review for final exam Seminar: Section 9: 27, "Mindfulness", p.449

Policy on missed tests: make-up tests will be permitted <u>only</u> in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

Cell phones: students are not permitted to use cell phones in class. Remember to TURN OFF your cell phone for class.

Laptop computers may be used for note taking only - watching sports, videos, etc., playing music, online chatting, doing email and so on is not permitted in class.

Missing classes: if you miss a class due to illness, or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, **unless** a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered.

Disruptive behaviour: while the instructor is speaking, students are not permitted to talk. Students who are unable to manage class etiquette will be asked to leave.

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 3rd 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 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 the College web site in the Policy Section.