

CGSC 3004B/ PHIL 3501B

Philosophy and/of Cognitive Science

OUTLINE AND COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course examines the role that Philosophy plays in Cognitive Science. We will approach this issue first by reading Clark's recently revised classic, *Mindware*. Clark looks at various topics in Cognitive Science from the critical perspective of Philosophy of Mind, and we will supplement our discussion of his text with a number of additional philosophical articles (to be made available via cuLearn). Second, we will examine a recent trend in Philosophy called Experimental Philosophy in order to determine whether or not it can make a contribution to the field of Cognitive Science.

Students will produce weekly critical response sheets, and will make a seminar presentation focusing on one of the course topics. There will be no final exam.

Winter 2017

Mon 8:35-11:35

Room: Dunton 2203

Instructor: Dr. Mark MacLeod

E-Mail: mark.macleod@carleton.ca

Phone: 613.520.2600 x1710

Office: Dunton 2216

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:15 to 2:15 and by appointment

TA: Aaron Nowaczek

E-Mail: AaronNowaczek@cmail.carleton.ca

Materials Required

Textbooks: Clark, A. (2013). *Mindware: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Cognitive Science* (2nd edition). Oxford: New York.

Alexander, J. (2012). *Experimental Philosophy: An Introduction*. Polity Press: Malden, MA.

Additional readings will be made available on cuLearn

Important Dates

January 16, 2017

First Weekly Response due

January 23, 2017

Presentations begin

REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Participation

You are expected to attend the seminar regularly, keep up with weekly readings, and participate in weekly discussions. In other words, you should come to class prepared to contribute something to our discussions. This doesn't mean that I expect you to come to class with all the answers, but it does mean that you should be prepared to engage in intelligent discussion.

2. Weekly Response Sheets

Each week you will be expected to hand in a two page (400-500 words) response to that week's reading. Your response will consist of a brief summary of some portion of the reading as well as a critical commentary or response to an issue or issues raised by the reading. Since these commentary sheets make up a large percentage of your mark for this course they should be carefully thought out, well-written, well organized, and should represent your best effort to come to terms with that particular reading. Over the course of the term you will be required to hand in ten commentary sheets. See Weekly response sheet handout for more details.

3. Seminar Presentation

With a partner, you are expected to make one class presentation. The purpose of the presentation is to take a particular issue in Cognitive Science and explain it clearly to the class. As the presenter, you are responsible for choosing and presenting one article from the class reading list. During your presentation you are expected to begin by providing the class with an overview of the reading (i.e., highlight the main points of the paper, present a few key quotes), introduce some discussion topics (e.g., problems, unclear points, connections to previous readings, ideas for improvement, etc.), and helping to run the discussion for that portion of the class. Your presentation plus discussion will last approximately 30 minutes. You and your presentation partner are required to meet with me the week before your presentation – more details to follow. Presentations will start in Week #3.

EVALUATION

Assignment	Percentage
Attendance and Participation	25
Weekly Response Sheets	50
Seminar Presentation	25
TOTAL	100

Assignment Deadlines and Deferral Policy

If, for extraordinary reasons, you miss an assignment deadline, you must notify me as soon as possible after the deadline.

A deferred assignment will be permitted under only two conditions: illness or bereavement. Documentation is required in order to schedule a deferral. If no documentation is provided, you will receive a 3% penalty **per day** for the assignment. This policy will be strictly enforced.

If you know that you will have trouble meeting a due date (e.g., because of other tests/assignments due on that day), contact me *in advance* to see if we can work out a reasonable solution (e.g., a short extension without penalty). If you do not do this in advance, then the above policy applies.

COURSE WEB PAGE (cuLEARN)

The course outline and readings will be made available within cuLearn. Student grades will be distributed in cuLearn, and not through emails. Students who do not already have access their cuLearn account should learn to do so [for student support, go to <http://www5.carleton.ca/culearnsupport/students/>]. Please note that I will update the website throughout the term. What you can find on the cuLearn course website:

- Course Outline with a breakdown of topics and a (approximate) reading schedule
- Details of the written assignments and presentation
- A drop box (to be used to submit responses)
- General discussion forum (not monitored)
- Other resources for the course in general (links to interesting and relevant videos, articles, papers, etc.)

A note about the discussion forum: The forum is meant to give you a tool to communicate with your peers. The forum will not be monitored, so if you have a question that requires an answer from me, please email me directly. However, remember that posting on the discussion forum is not done anonymously. Be respectful of your colleagues.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The class schedule is a guide only, and is likely to change.

Class Date	Topic	Reading
Jan. 9	General Introduction	
Jan. 16	Philosophy of Cognitive Science	Brook, Prinz
Jan. 23		Clark Chapter 1, 2
Jan. 30		Chapter 3, 4
Feb. 6		Chapter 5, 6
Feb. 13		Chapter 7, 8
Feb. 20	Winter Break – no class	
Feb. 27		Chapter 9, 10
Mar. 6	Philosophy and Cog Sci	Chapter 11, Thagard
Mar. 13		Bechtel, Dennett
Mar. 20	Experimental Philosophy	Alexander Chapter 1,2, Knobe
Apr. 27		Chapter 3,4
Apr. 3		Chapter 5, Weinberg, Williamson

REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION COMMON TO ALL COGNITIVE SCIENCE COURSES

Requests for Academic Accommodation: You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring

academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the [PMC website](#) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a final term paper or write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last day to withdraw from a Fall 2016 course, without academic penalty, is Dec. 9, 2016. The last day to withdraw from Winter 2017 course, without academic penalty, is April 7, 2017.

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Fall 2016 courses: Dec. 10-22, 2016 and Winter 2017 courses: April 10-25, 2017 (may include evenings & Saturdays or Sundays)

For more information on the important dates and deadlines of the academic year, consult the [Carleton 2016-2017 Calendar](#).

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence, which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of "F" for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 B = 73-76 C - = 60-62

A = 85-89 B - = 70-72 D+ = 57-59

A - = 80-84 C+ = 67-69 D = 53-56

B+ = 77-79 C = 63-66 D - = 50-52

F Failure. No academic credit

ABS Absent from the final examination

DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND "Failed, no Deferral" – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the Chair and Faculty Dean.

RESOURCES

If you are not sure how to go about performing one of these learning strategies (e.g., not sure how to take effective and efficient notes), there are some great resources at Carleton that can be useful. Note that all these services are free for Carleton students (613.520.2600, phone ext.)

ICS Office (x2218)	Dunton 2218
ICS Undergraduate Supervisor (Mark MacLeod, x1710)	Dunton 2216
Registrar's Office (x3500)	300 Tory
Student Academic and Career Development Services (x7850)	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre (x6608)	501 University Centre
Writing Tutorial Service (x1125)	4th floor Library
Learning Support Services (x1125)	4th floor Library