

PHIL1301A Mind, World, and Knowledge  
Summer 2014  
Syllabus

### **Instructor Information**

**Course instructor:** Nalini E. Ramlakhan

**Office location:** 2206A Dunton Tower

**E-mail:** [naliniramlakhan@gmail.com](mailto:naliniramlakhan@gmail.com)

**Office hours:** Wednesdays 3-5PM or by appointment

### **Course Information**

Summer 2014, Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:05PM-8:55PM

**Course title:** Mind, World, and Knowledge

**Course number:** 1301A

**Department:** Philosophy

### **Course Website:**

CULearn will be used for access to the course syllabus, grades, announcements, and discussion boards. It is recommended that students regularly check CULearn for course updates and other information.

### **Course Description**

This course examines two areas in philosophy: mind/body interaction and personal identity. The first part of this course explores dualist and materialist theories of mind and how humans acquire knowledge of the world around us. We will look at theories in philosophy of mind and philosophy of cognitive science, and how contemporary philosophers address the longstanding and pressing questions concerning mind and body/brain interaction.

The second part of this course explores personal identity and examines different theories of what a 'self' consists of. We will look at the ethical and moral responsibilities bound with different conceptions of personal identity.

### **Dos and Don'ts**

Do complete the readings, come to class, and complete your assignments on time. Class attendance is important if you want to succeed in this course. If you are having difficulties, including difficulties completing an assignment on time, talk to me during my office hours. Do not use your cell phone during class. Do not be disruptive during class. I kindly ask that laptop users sit at the back of the classroom in order to avoid distractions to other students.

### **Course Texts**

Made available at Haven Bookstore

Heil, John. *Philosophy of Mind: A Contemporary Introduction* (3rd ed.). New York: Routledge, 2013.

Perry, John (ed.). *Personal Identity*. London: University of California Press, 1975.

Searle, John. *Mind: A Brief Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Shoemaker, David. *Personal Identity and Ethics: A Brief Introduction*. Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2009.

**Disclaimer:** I reserve the right to change the readings or topics assigned. Changes will not add substantial workload.

### **Evaluation**

Grades will be based on a midterm examination, a final test, one short essay, and participation/attendance (consists of two in-class group activities worth 10% each).

### **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

**Worth:** 20%

**Exam date:** Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

### **IN-CLASS TEST**

**Value:** 30%

**Test Date:** Wednesday August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### **SHORT ESSAY**

**Value:** 30%

**Due date:** Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Length:** 4-6 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt font

**Submission policy:** Submit your essay in class ON or BEFORE the due date. Late penalties are 5 points per calendar day late (i.e. 5% of your final assignment grade) unless you have reached a prior agreement with me. Points may also be detracted for grammar and spelling errors.

### **PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE**

**Value:** 20%

**Dates:** Monday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Any deferrals must be submitted to the registrar's office (see policies below).

## Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
July 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Syllabus overview Introduction to philosophy	Heil, Chapter 1 Searle, Introduction
July 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Cartesian Dualism	Searle, Chapter 1 Heil, Chapter 2
July 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Dualism, Materialism	Heil, Chapter 3 Searle, Chapter 2
July 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Materialism	Searle, Chapter 2 Heil, Chapters 4 and 5
July 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	Materialism, <b>*in-class activity*</b>	Searle, Chapters 3 and 8 Heil, Chapter 6
July 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	<b>*MIDTERM EXAM*</b>	No Readings
July 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Personal identity	Searle, Chapter 11 Shoemaker, Introduction Locke, Of Identity and Diversity (Perry, Chapter 2 and 7)
July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Personal identity, essay topics handed out, discussion on how to write a philosophy essay	Hume on identity (Perry, Chapters 10-12), Hume, Selection from Book I, Part 4, Section 6 of <i>A Treatise of Human Nature</i> <a href="http://www.anselm.edu/homepage/dbanach/pi.htm">http://www.anselm.edu/homepage/dbanach/pi.htm</a>
August 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	<b>*IN-CLASS TEST*</b>	No Readings
August 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Personal identity- <i>The Sixth Day</i>	Shoemaker, Chapters 1,2 and 3
August 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Personal identity	Shoemaker, Chapters 1,2 and 3 Selected readings from Parfit's <i>Reasons and Persons</i>
August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Personal identity and moral and ethical responsibility, <b>*in-class activity*</b> , <b>*short papers due*</b>	Shoemaker, Chapters 7 and 8

## Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Summer 2014)

### Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
  - student name
  - student number
  - course number and section
  - instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

### Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

### Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://www4.carleton.ca/calendars//ugrad/current/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html#14.3>)

### Academic Accommodation 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](mailto: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).

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>.

### Important Dates:

May 5	Classes start.
May 12	Last day for registration and course changes for early summer courses.
May 16	Last day for registration and course changes for full summer courses.
May 19	Statutory holiday, university closed.
May 23	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from early and full summer courses.
June 10	Last day for tests or examinations in early Summer courses below the 4000-level before the final examination period.
June 17	Last day for early summer classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for courses that end on this day.
June 17	Last day for academic withdrawal from early summer courses.
June 20-26	Final examinations.
July 1	Statutory holiday, university closed.
July 3	Late summer courses begin and full summer courses resume.
July 10	Last day for registration and course changes for late summer courses.
July 23	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from late summer courses.
Aug. 4	Statutory holiday, university closed
Aug. 7	Last day for tests or examinations in the late Summer courses below the 4000-level before the final examination period.
Aug. 15	Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for late and full summer term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for courses that end on this day.
Aug. 15	Last day for academic withdrawal from late summer and full summer courses.
Aug. 18-23	Final examinations.

### Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/philosophy">www.carleton.ca/philosophy</a> 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/registrar">www.carleton.ca/registrar</a> 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/sasc">www.carleton.ca/sasc</a> 520-7850
Paul Menton Centre:	500 University Centre <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/pmc">www.carleton.ca/pmc</a> 520-6608
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Library <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/">http://www.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/</a> 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	<a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/">http://www.library.carleton.ca/</a> 520-2735