

CGSC 5004: COGNITION AND CONCEPTUAL ISSUES**INSTITUTE OF COGNITIVE SCIENCE
CARLETON UNIVERSITY
FALL 2019**

Andrew Brook
3A57 Paterson

613 520-2600, x3597 andrew.brook@carleton.ca
Office Hours: TBA

Course Objective:

One aim of this course is to introduce central conceptual issues in contemporary cognitive science, one of the biggest of which is: What is cognitive science? Researchers with training in philosophy often deal with these issues but they do not have a monopoly on them. Another aim is to survey the role in cognitive science of philosophical work on mind, language, and science and of the methods used in this work, comparing the latter to other methods used by cognitive scientists.

Required Texts:

- Dawson, M. R. W., 2013. *Mind, Body, World: Foundations of Cognitive Science*. Edmonton, AB: Athabasca University Press
- Brook, A. ed., 2009 and on. Philosophy In and Philosophy of Cognitive Science. *Topics in Cognitive Science* (to be circulated electronically)
- Bechtel, W. & Graham, G. (1998). *A Companion to Cognitive Science*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

A Few Other Useful Texts:

- Kolak, D., W. Hirstein, P. Mandik, & J. Waskan (2006). *Cognitive Science: An Introduction to Mind and Brain*. London: Routledge.
- Friedenberg, J. & G. Silverman (2006). *Cognitive Science: An Introduction to the Study of Mind*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishing [text for CGSC 5100]
- Nadel, L., ed. (2003). *Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science*. London: Nature Publishing Group.
- Stainton, Robert J., ed. (2006). *Contemporary Debates in Cognitive Science*. Oxford: Blackwell
- Wilson, R. W. & Keil, F. (1999). *MIT Encyclopedia of the Cognitive Sciences*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
[available on-line on CogNet through Carleton Library]

SCHEDULE

Wk 1 (Sept. 10th):	Introduction; Dawson, Ch 1
Wk 2 (Sept. 17th):	Dawson, Ch. 2
Wk 3 (Sept. 24th):	Dawson, Ch. 3
Wk 4 (Oct. 1st):	Dawson, Ch. 4
Wk 5 (Oct. 8th):	Dawson, Ch. 's 5 and 8.
Wk 6 (Oct. 15rd):	Brook, A. ed. papers by Brook, Dennett and Thagard. Presentation
Oct. 22 nd –Fall Break	
Wk 7 (Oct. 29th):	Brook, A. ed. ... papers by Bechtel, Stepp et al., and Kaplan and Bechtel. Presentation
Wk 8 (Nov. 5th):	Representation in Cognitive Science. Kolak et al. 1.4 & Chomsky (both to be distributed). Presentation
Wk 9 (Nov. 12th):	Philosophical, linguistic, and empirical methods in cognitive science. Articles in Bechtel and Graham and to be distributed. Presentation
Wk 10 (Nov. 19th):	Situated/Embodied/Extended Cognition and another topic. Presentation
Wk 11 (Nov. 26th):	Topic(s) (presenters' choice): Cognitive Architecture, Theory & Explanation, What is Cognitive Science, Presentation
Wk 12 (Dec. 3th):	Same as Week 11 or Brook (Consciousness?). Presentation

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Participation:

You are expected to attend all seminars (illness aside) with the readings mastered.

Presentation (33%):

Each student will present on the topic of a seminar. The aim is to highlight the main issues and stimulate discussion. Merely summarizing the readings makes for a boring presentation.

Paper due at the end of term (67%):

Pick a topic in cognitive research to which philosophical work has (or should have) made a significant contribution. Lay out the topic and this contribution and compare the contribution made using philosophical methods to contributions made using other methods. You need not write on the topic of your seminar but you may if you wish. If you pick a topic that can contribute to your thesis, that would be fine and more than fine.

An ideal paper would survey the current state of the art concerning the issue which you choose, identifying:

- key conceptual contributors and contributions,
- what conceptual work has accomplished, and,
- (maybe) what other approaches have contributed.

The due date for the paper is Friday, December 20th. Because that is already an extension, in effect, of nearly a month, there will be no further extensions except for serious medical problems.

REQUIRED STATEMENTS

ICS Course Policies and University Information

STUDENT REQUIREMENT

Students are required to keep copies of all submitted work.

WITHDRAWALS

The last day to withdraw from a Fall 2019 course without academic penalty is Dec. 6th, 2019.

The last day to withdraw from fall term and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal) is Sept. 30th. Withdrawals after this date will create no financial change to Fall term fees and will result in a grade(s) of WDN appearing on official transcripts.

CARLETON'S STATEMENT REGARDING PLAGIARISM

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The Senate of the University has labeled plagiarism an instructional offence. For the University's purposes, to plagiarize is to "use and pass off as one's own idea or product work of another without expressly giving credit to another". Being caught plagiarizing can result in one being expelled, suspended from all studies at the University, suspended from full-time studies, awarded a reprimand, refused permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program but subject to having met all academic requirements shall be permitted to register and continue in some other program, placed on Academic Warning, or awarded an F or ABS in a course or examination. For specific examples of plagiarism and tips on how to avoid it, visit the Academic Integrity section of the Learning Commons at <http://www.carleton.ca/wts/docs/writingresources.html#academicintegrity>.

If you have any questions about this issue and would like to make sure you are using a proper citation system, do not hesitate to ask.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

If need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations, please contact me as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations.

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>.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

There are several services for students on campus depending on the need you experience:

- 1) For health and counselling issues you can visit the **Health and Counselling Services**; 2600 CTT Centre; 613-5206674; www.carleton.ca/health
- 2) **Student Academic Success Centre (SASC)**; 302 Tory; 613-520-7850; www.carleton.ca/sasc assists students with academic planning, understanding academic rules & regulations, finding a tutor, choosing or changing a major, polishing study skills, and referrals to other services.
- 3) **Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Service** (4th Floor, Library, 613-520-6632; www.carleton.ca/wts) can help you learn to write better papers. Tutors are graduate students in many different departments, with plenty of experience writing. They are trained to assist you at any stage in the writing process. To make an appointment, simply call 520-6632, or come in person between 9:00 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.
- 4) **The Learning Commons** (4th Floor, Library, 613-520-2600, ext.1125; see also Main Floor desk) is a one-stop study-shop that combines research, IT and learning support services under one roof to enhance the student experience.