

CGSC3004 (A): *Cognitive Science: Thinking and Knowing*

Course Outline

Fall 2019

Class Information

Dates: Friday (Starting Sept 6, 2019)

Time: 14:35 – 17:25

Location: Tory Building 204

Course prerequisites: CGSC 2001 and PHIL 2501, and third-year standing.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr Deirdre Kelly

Office: TBD

E-mail: deirdre.kelly@carleton.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday 4:30 – 6:30 PM (by appointment) (Location TBD)

Teaching Assistant(s)

Name: TBD

E-mail: TBD

Office hours: TBD

Course Description

An examination of the significance and role of philosophy in cognitive science. Topics may include: philosophical methods for studying the mind, prospects for naturalizing consciousness and intentionality, assessing competing models of the mind. It will examine the role of philosophy in decisions of scientific design and the value of user-experience (UX) design to improve scientific communication. Students will learn both through theory and practice as they apply UX principles to designing their course projects.

Readings

Textbooks available at the Carleton Bookstore

Philosophy of Mind and Cognition: An Introduction (David Braddon-Mitchell and Frank Jackson)

The Philosophy of Cognitive Science (Mark J. Cain)

Experimental Philosophy: An Introduction (Joshua Alexander)

Course Web Page (cuLearn)

The course website is located at <https://culearn.carleton.ca/moodle/course/view.php?id=131505>

On this site you will find the course outline, schedule, discussion forums, updates, course feedback tools, marking rubrics, and a variety of learning exercises and useful links. It is going to be a dynamic space with opportunities for you to make a meaningful contribution to the course and connect with your peers. The discussion forums represent an excellent place in which to ask questions of your colleagues, share your thoughts on the material, post interesting and relevant links, arrange study groups, etc.

The site also includes the PowerPoint lecture slides. While these slides are meant to assist your efforts in the course, they are only a starting point for what we talk about in class. Material will be covered in class that is

not included on these slides. In other words, the slides should not be regarded as a substitute for class attendance.

Evaluation

Provide an at-a-glance overview of percentage breakdowns and due dates (if applicable) for all evaluative elements. For example:

Item	Weight of Grade	Due date
Brief topic pitches	15	Weeks of October 11, 18
Midterm paper	35	November 1, 2019
Conference proposal	25	November 15, 2019
General audience article (news article, blog post...)	25	Take home exam (due on final day of exam period)

Policy on Late Assignments

Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 15% of the assignment value per day or part day. In the interest of being fair to all students, there will be no grace period. Therefore, a document submitted 1 minute after the deadline will be considered late. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that you upload and submit the document prior to the last few minutes before the deadline. A doctor's note or other medical documentation must be provided within two working days after the due date in order to avoid late penalties. In order to be considered official, all extensions must be obtained in writing from the instructor. If you are running into trouble, it is vital to approach me as soon as possible.

In the case of missed presentations, the assignment grade will be 0 unless there is a documented excuse.

Lecture Schedule

Week of	Lecture Topic	Readings
Sept 6	Course introduction Philosophy of and in cognitive science Can we make people care about cognitive science? How can UX amplify cognitive science? UX: Cognitive science by design	Andrew Brook: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1756-8765.2009.01014.x UX is a philosophy: https://blinkux.com/ideas/ux-is-a-philosophy
Sept 13	Cartesian Dualism and beyond	Cain: Chapter 1 Brandon-Mitchell & Jackson: Chapters 1-3
Sept 20	Reductionist accounts Functionalism Challenges to Functionalism	Brandon-Mitchell & Jackson: Chapters 14, 15
Sept 27	Experimental philosophy and the value of thought experiments UX: Understanding your audience	Joshua Alexander: Experimental Philosophy: An Introduction Brandon-Mitchell & Jackson: Chapters 7, 8

Oct 4	Representation and Computation and the Modularity Problem UX: Napkin pitches	Cain: Chapters 2, 3
Oct 11	Topic pitches Concepts and Language	Due: Pitch Presentation Cain: Chapters 4, 5
Oct 18	Topic pitches The Brain and Cognition	Due: Pitch Presentation Cain: Chapter 6
Oct 25	BREAK	None
Nov 1	What do we know and How do we Know it? Consciousness UX: Designing for academic conferences	Due: Midterm Paper
Nov 8	How do we think? Modelling the mind and other implications for economics	Daniel Kahneman: Thinking Fast and Slow
Nov 15	Cognitive biases and improving decision making Does de-biasing make us better people? UX: Real world testing and designing around bias	Due: Conference proposal Annie Duke: Thinking in Bets
Nov 22	Identity: What is self-identity and why does it matter?	Dolly Chugh: The Person You Mean to Be
Nov 29	How do we derive meaning? What do we care about and why?	Effective altruism: https://www.effectivealtruism.org/
EXAM PERIOD		Due: General audience article

This schedule is to be regarded as tentative, although the midterm date is fixed.

Additional Information (to be added at the end of the course outline)

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 34), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

Grades entered by Registrar:

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

DEF = Deferred

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

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 an accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodations arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadlines to request accommodations for the formally - scheduled exam (if applicable).

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentionally 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 that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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 can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

Important Information

- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
 - All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.
 - For us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid CARLETON address. Therefore, in order to respond to your inquiries, please send all email from your Carleton CMail account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <http://carleton.ca/ccs/students/>
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For a list of dates and deadlines, including holidays and exam dates, please visit:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/registration/dates-and-deadlines/>