

# **PHIL1100: Looking at Philosophy**

Classes: Fridays 8:35-10:25

Tutorials: 10:35-11:25 OR 11:35-12:25

Instructor: Heidi L. Maibom

**Course description:** This course concerns different aspects of the mind. The Fall term will be an introduction to the mind. We address questions such as: Is the mind different from the body? What is consciousness? What is it to have unconscious thoughts? And so on. The tutorials are focused on giving you the tools to read and write philosophy. We will mainly read introductory materials during this term. The Winter term has two themes: moral/legal responsibility and the psychology of morality. Here we upgrade to reading philosophy texts only (no introductory texts), and to completing a group project on responsibility. The tutorials will be dedicated to discussion of relevant texts and for completing and presenting group work. There will be final exam that will cover the entire year's work.

**Course aim:** To teach you about some of the basic issues in understanding the mind, responsibility, and morality. I will give you a number of questions that you should be in a position to say something intelligent about at the end of term (and hopefully during term as well). For instance: (1) Discuss one reason to think that the mind is not the brain, and (2) Why do some philosophers think we can never be responsible for our actions? You should gain a grasp of what it is to do philosophy, how to decipher a philosophy text, how to write a philosophy paper, and how to argue for a philosophical position.

**Grading:** You will be graded on assignments and one final exam. There are 2 individual papers (1 short, approx. 1 page, 1 longer, approx. 3 pages, single-spaced), one group assignment to be presented in tutorials and summarized in class, and one final exam. In addition, there are many smaller assignments in the tutorials that you will be graded on. Those assignments may take place during the tutorial, and it is your responsibility to make sure that you are present so that you can complete them. There need not be any prior warning. Grading: (1) tutorial assignments: 20% (10% each term), (2) 1<sup>st</sup> paper: 10%, (3) 2<sup>nd</sup> paper: 20%, (4) group assignment 20%, (5) final exam 30%.

**Dos and Don'ts:** Do complete the readings, come to class and tutorials, and complete your assignments. If you are having difficulties, including difficulties completing an assignment on time, come talk to either me or your TA. Don't leave this to the last minute. Do not use electronic equipment in class, unless you have special permission to do so. Don't use your cell phone, iPhone, or Android during class.

**Submission policy:** Submit your essays in word format on WebCT. Late penalties are 1 point per day late (i.e. 1% of your final grade) *unless* you have reached a prior agreement with me. Points may also be detracted for grammar and spelling errors.

**Disclaimer:** I reserve the right to change the readings or topics assigned. Changes will not add substantial workload. But we may find, as we move through term, that some readings or topics are more appropriate than others.

## Fall 2012

Textbook: John Searle: *Mind: A Brief Introduction*. Papers are all available electronically through the library. Background reading for tutorials: Douglas Soccio: *How to get the most out of philosophy* (not required).

Sept 7 Introduction. Searle, chap. 1: A dozen problems in the philosophy of mind  
*No tutorials*

Sept 14 *Movie*  
*Tutorials: Movie discussion*

Sept 21 Searle, chap. 2: The turn to materialism  
*Tutorials: How to get the most out of philosophy*

Sept 28 Searle, chap. 3: Arguments against materialism  
*Tutorials: How to read philosophy (How to find philosophy papers)*

### \*\*\*Thanksgiving Break\*\*\*

Oct 12 Searle, chap. 4: Consciousness part I: Consciousness and the mind-body problem; *Guest lecture by Andrew Brook*  
*Tutorials: Reading Thomas Nagel: What is it like to be a bat?*

Oct 19 Searle, chap. 5: Consciousness part II: The structure of consciousness and neurobiology  
*Tutorials: Reading Thomas Nagel: What is it like to be a bat?*

Oct 26 Searle, chap. 6: Intentionality; **1<sup>st</sup> Essay assignment**  
*Tutorials: How to write a (philosophy) paper*

Nov 2 Searle, chap. 7: Mental causation  
*Tutorials: Discussion of first drafts*

Nov 9 Searle, chap. 8: Free will; **Deadline for handing in 1<sup>st</sup> assignment**  
*No tutorials*

Nov 16 Searle, chap. 9: The unconscious and the explanation of behavior  
*Tutorials: Discussion of papers*

Nov 23 Searle, chap. 10: Perception, chap. 11: The self  
*Tutorial: Reading Parfit: Reasons and Persons, Chap. 10*

Nov 30 The self, final discussion; **Term paper assignment**  
*Tutorials: Discussion of how to write term paper*

**Term paper is due December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at midnight.**

## Winter 2013

Journal articles. The group work: moral/legal responsibility.

- Jan 11        **Responsibility.** Harry Frankfurt: Free will and the concept of a person, *Journal of Philosophy*, 68, 5-20 (1971)  
*Tutorials: Discussion*
- Jan 18        **Responsibility.** Susan Wolf: Sanity and the metaphysics of responsibility  
*Tutorials: Discussion*
- Jan 25        **Responsibility.** Heidi Maibom: The mad, the bad, and the psychopath.  
*Neuroethics*, 1, 167-84.  
*Tutorials: Discussion*
- Feb 1         **Responsibility.** Mary Moody-Adams: Culture, responsibility, and affected ignorance. *Ethics*, 104, 291-309.  
*Tutorials: Discussion, Group work topics, Group allocation*
- Feb 8         **Responsibility.** Shaun Nichols & Joshua Knobe: Moral responsibility and determinism: The cognitive science of folk intuitions; Eddy Nahmias et al.: Is incompatibilism intuitive? In: Joshua Knobe & Shaun Nichols (eds.) *Experimental Philosophy* (available as iBook through library)  
*Tutorials: Group work*
- Feb 15        **The moral mind.** Greene, J.D., Cushman, F.A., Stewart, L.E et al. (2009) Pushing moral buttons: The interaction between personal force and intention in moral judgment. *Cognition*, 111, 364-371. (avail. on his website)  
*Tutorials: Group work*

### \*\*\*Winter Break\*\*\*

- March 1       **The moral mind.** The Foundations of Morality (Jonathan Haidt & Selin Kesebir: Morality, in: S. Fiske, D. Gilbert, & G. Lindzey: (Eds.) *Handbook of Social Psychology*, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.; request article on Haidt's webpage)  
*Tutorial: Group presentations*
- March 8       **The moral mind.** Guest lecture/movie (TBA)  
*Tutorials: Group presentations*
- March 15      **The moral mind.** Morality and disorder. Victoria McGeer: Varieties of moral agency: lessons from autism (and psychopathy) in: W. Sinnott-Armstrong (Ed.): *Moral Psychology* (vol. 3) (available on her website)  
*Tutorials: Group presentations*
- March 22      Summaries of presentations  
*Tutorials: Group presentations*
- April 5        Summaries of presentations  
*No tutorials*

### \*\*\*Final exam\*\*\*

## Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2012-13)

### 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:

Sept. 6	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 5	University Day – no classes.
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov. 19	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 3	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 3	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 4-5	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 6-19	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 19	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 7	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 18	Family Day – university closed
Feb. 18-22	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 27	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Mar. 29	Good Friday – university closed
Apr. 10	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter 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 Fall/Winter and Winter term courses. NOTE: On this day all classes follow a Friday schedule.
Apr. 10	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 11-12	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 13-27	Final Examinations.
Apr. 27	Take-home exams are due.

### Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A46 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/wts">www.carleton.ca/wts</a> 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	<a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/">http://www.library.carleton.ca/</a> 520-2735