

# PERSONAL IDENTITY & THE SELF

PHIL2540, Winter 2012

Lectures	Mondays & Wednesday 1:05-2:25 Mackenzie 3380
Instructor	Heidi Lene Maibom Department of Philosophy Paterson Hall 3A39 613 - 520 3825 heidi_maibom@carleton.ca
Office hours	Mondays 2:30-3:30 or by appointment

## Course Materials

All the materials for this course are available freely online or through the library.

John Locke and David Hume are both freely available on Project Gutenberg ([http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page)) (PG).

'Electronic resource' signifies that the book in question is accessible online through the library website.

'Library Reserves' signifies that the chapter or book is available on library reserve. Where only the book title is mentioned, the book is on reserve in the library. Journals are also accessible online through the library website.

## Course Description

What makes the person the same person over time? Is it their mind, their body, their consciousness? Can several persons inhabit the same human body? Can one person become another person during their lifetime? Is there a self at all?

Questions such as these, as well as possible answers to them, will be at the core of this course. We will explore them through readings, movies, and discussions.

## Course requirements

One midterm exam (30%), consisting mainly of multiple choice questions and short questions-answers, one final take-home exam (50%), which will be in essay form (6-8 pages), and one essay (2-3 pages) (20%). Announcements will be made, assignments given, and materials presented in class, and it is your responsibility to keep track of this.

## Essay Submission

You should submit all your essays, including your take-home exam on WebCT unless otherwise informed. Your graded essays will be returned to you via WebCT

also, and your grade uploaded to the system. The midterm exam will be picked up from you in class.

### **Class Schedule**

Jan 4	<i>Introduction.</i>
Jan 9	John Locke: <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> , Chap. XXVII: Of Identity and Diversity (PG).
Jan 11	Locke continued; Sydney Shoemaker: 'Personal Identity and Memory', <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> , 56 (1959).
Jan 16	Shoemaker continued; David Hume: <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i> , Book I, Part IV, Section 6 (PG).
Jan 18	Bernard Williams: 'The Self and the Future', <i>The Philosophical Review</i> , 79, 161-80 (1970).
Jan 23	Williams continued; David Lewis: <i>Philosophical Papers, Vol. I: 'Survival and Identity'</i> (Electronic Resource).
Jan 25	Lewis continued.
Jan 30	Derek Parfitt: <i>Reasons and Persons</i> , Chap. 11 (Electronic Resource).
Feb 1	Derek Parfitt: <i>Reasons and Persons</i> , Chap. 12 (Electronic Resource); Sperry: 'Hemisphere Deconnection and Unity in Conscious Awareness', <i>American Psychologist</i> , 23 (1968).
Feb 6	Parfitt & Sperry continued.
Feb 8	Derek Parfitt: <i>Reasons and Persons</i> , Chap. 13 (Electronic Resource)
Feb 13	Parfitt continued
<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>

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

Feb 27	Eric Olson: <i>The Human Animal</i> , Chap. 6 (Electronic Resource)
Feb 29	Olson continued.
Mar 5	Selections from <i>Questions of King Milinda</i> (see WebCT for link to Sacred Texts of the East); Georges Dreyfus: 'Self and Subjectivity: A Middle-Way Approach', in: M. Siderits, E. Thompson, and D. Zahavi: <i>Self, No Self?</i> (Library Reserve)
Mar 7	Jonardon Ganeri: 'Subjectivity, Selfhood and the Use of the Word "I"', in: M. Siderits, E. Thompson, and D. Zahavi: <i>Self, No Self?</i> (Library Reserve) <b>Essay assigned</b>
Mar 12	David Shoemaker: <i>Personal Identity and Ethics</i> , Chapter 7 (Library Reserve)
Mar 14	Julian Jaynes: 'Consciousness and the Voices of the Mind', <i>Canadian Psychology</i> , 27, 128-48 (1986).
Mar 19	Daniel Dennett: 'Julian Jaynes' Software Archeology' & Jonathan Miller: 'Primitive Thoughts', <i>Canadian Psychology</i> , 27, 149-57 (1986).

- Mar 21 George Graham & Lynn Stephens: 'Mind and Mine', in: G. Graham & G. L. Stephens (eds.) *Philosophical Psychopathology* (Electronic Resource)
- March 22 Essay Due, Midnight**
- Mar 26 Daniel Dennett & Nicholas Humphrey: Speaking for Ourselves: An Assessment of Multiple Personality Disorder. In: D. C. Dennett: *Brainchildren* (Electronic Resource)
- Mar 28 Owen Flanagan: 'Multiple Identity, Character Transformation, and Self-Reclamation', in: G. Graham & G. L. Stephens (eds.) *Philosophical Psychopathology* (Electronic Resource)
- April 2 Galen Strawson: 'The Self', in: Raymond Martin & John Barresi (eds.) *Personal Identity*, Chap. 13 (Library Reserve)
- Apr 4 Strawson continued

**Take-Home Exam due 24<sup>th</sup> April, Midnight.**

The class schedule is provisional. Where there will be no substantial changes to the amount of material covered, I reserve the right to change things around or exchange some readings for others, should the need arise.

# Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies

## 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:

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 visit the Equity Services website <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

**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 visit the Equity Services website <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

**Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations** in this course 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 I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the deadlines published on the PMC website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

## Important Dates:

Sept. 8	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 21	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall term and two-term courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 7	University Day – no classes.
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov. 21	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 5	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Dec. 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 8-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Jan. 4	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 17	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. 20	Family Day – university closed
Feb. 20-24	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 22	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 5	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Apr. 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 6	Good Friday – university closed.
Apr. 11-24	Final Examinations.

## 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