

**CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Wilkinson College**  
**One University Drive**  
**Orange, CA 92866**  
**(714) 744-7932**

**GE Area: Values Inquiry (7VI)**  
**Phil 340**  
**Philosophy of Mind**  
**Day/Time: MW 2:30-3:45PM**  
**Location: BK 213**

**Fall 2014**

Credits: 3

Instructor Info

Dr. Philip Walsh  
Office Location: Smith 213  
Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30-2:30PM  
Email: pwalsh@chapman.edu

Catalog Description and Content:

A philosophical exploration of the nature of mind and mental states. Topics include the concept of a person, minds and machines, the prospects for a science of consciousness, and philosophical foundations of psychology. 3 credits.

Course Overview:

What does it mean for something to have a mind? Is the mind identical to the brain? Could there be minds that exist independently of brains? Could minds exist independently of physical matter completely? What are the defining features of the mind, i.e. what makes a mind a mind? What is the significance of notions such as 'consciousness', 'intentionality', and 'mental content'? We will explore classical and contemporary answers to these questions in this course.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Writing: to develop students' ability to state and support a thesis, to apply knowledge of critical reasoning, to accurately interpret philosophic sources, and to clearly communicate a balanced account in writing.
2. Critical reasoning: to develop students' ability to construct and analyze complex arguments, and distinguish good reasoning from bad.
3. Knowledge of Core Philosophical Fields: To develop students' ability to demonstrate knowledge of some of the most important figures and theories in philosophy of mind.
4. Values and Ethical Inquiry (7VI): Students will be able to articulate how values and ethics inform human understanding, structures, and behavior.
5. Social Inquiry (7VI): Employs theories of how people frame and analyze social and/or historical phenomena.

### Major Topics Covered:

1. Theories of the Mind and Mental States (including Dualism, Behaviorism, Type-Identity Theory, and Functionalism)
2. Freedom and determinism
3. Theories of Consciousness and the Prospects for a Science of Consciousness
4. Theories of Intentionality

### Texts and Required Readings:

Chalmers, David, Ed. *Philosophy of Mind: Classical and Contemporary Readings*. (Oxford University Press, 2002).

Kim, Jaegwon. *Philosophy of Mind*, 3rd Ed. (Westview Press, 2012)

### Methods of Evaluation:

1. 3 essays:
  - a. 3 page essay – 15% (Oct. 3)
  - b. 3 page essay – 25% (Oct. 31)
  - c. 5 page essay – 35% (finals week)
2. In-class reading quizzes – 20%
  - a. Lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped
3. Participation – 5%

### Attendance

Attendance is required. Missing class will negatively affect your participation grade. Furthermore, if you miss a class and fail to provide official documentation (a doctor's note, a note from the athletic department, etc.) you will not be given the opportunity to make up anything you missed, e.g. a quiz. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to inquire after anything you may have missed.

### Students with Disabilities:

In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services. If you will need to utilize your approved accommodations in this class, please follow the proper notification procedure for informing your professor(s). This notification process must occur more than a week before any accommodation can be utilized. Please contact [Disability Services](#) at (714) 516-4520 if you have questions regarding this procedure, or for information and to make an appointment to discuss and/or request potential accommodations based on documentation of your disability. Once formal approval of your need for an accommodation has been granted, you are encouraged to talk with your professor(s) about your accommodation options. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

### Chapman University Academic Integrity Policy:

Chapman University is a community of scholars which emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated anywhere in the university. At their discretion the faculty may submit student work to plagiarism detection software, such as Turnitin for review.

Chapman University's Equity and Diversity Policy:

Chapman University is committed to ensuring equality and valuing diversity. Students and professors are reminded to show respect at all times as outlined in Chapman's Harassment and Discrimination Policy. Please see the full description of this policy at <http://www.chapman.edu/faculty-staff/human-resources/eoo.aspx>. Any violations of this policy should be discussed with the professor, the dean of students and/or otherwise reported in accordance with this policy.

Policy on Electronic Devices

Laptops and cell phones have been shown to distract from learning in the classroom. Cell phone use is not allowed in class. Laptops may be used for taking notes only, and I reserve the right to disallow them if their use becomes a problem or to enhance discussion.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change at discretion of instructor)

Sept. 3	Syllabus & Course Topics Reading: Kim, Chapter 1
Sept. 8 Sept. 10	Topic: Dualism Reading: Descartes, <i>Meditations</i> II & IV (Chalmers pp. 10-21) Kim, Ch. 1-2
Sept. 15 Sept. 17	Topic: Behaviorism & Identity theory Reading: Ryle, <i>Descartes' Myth</i> (Chalmers pp. 32-38) Smart, "Sensations and Brain Processes" (Chalmers pp. 60-67) Kim, Ch. 3 Kim, Ch. 4
Sept. 22 Sept. 24	Topic: Functionalism Reading: Putnam, "The Nature of Mental States" (Chalmers pp. 73-79) Searle, "Can Computers Think?" (Chalmers pp. 669-675) Kim, Ch. 5  Assignments: First paper assigned

Sept. 29 Oct. 1	<p>Topic: Functionalism (con't) Discussion &amp; Review Reading: TBD</p> <p>Assignments: First paper due Friday Oct. 3 11:59PM on BlackBoard</p>
Oct. 6 Oct. 8	<p>Topic: Consciousness Reading: Nagel, "What is it like to be a bat?" (Chalmers pp. 219-226) Block, "Concepts of Consciousness" (Chalmers pp. 206-217) Kim, Ch. 9</p>
Oct. 13 Oct. 15	<p>Topic: Consciousness (con't) Reading: Chalmers, "Consciousness and its place in nature" (Chalmers pp. 247-271) Kim, Ch. 10</p>
Oct. 20 Oct. 22	<p>Topic: Consciousness and Free Will Reading: Haggard, "Does brain science change our view of free will?" (online) Bayne, "Libet and the case for free will skepticism" (online)</p> <p>Assignments: Second paper assigned</p>
Oct. 27 Oct. 29	<p>Topic: Consciousness and Free Will (con't) Reading: Sartre, "Existentialism is a Humanism" (<a href="https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/sartre/works/exist/sartre.htm">https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/sartre/works/exist/sartre.htm</a>)</p> <p>Assignments: Second paper due Friday Oct. 31 11:59PM on BlackBoard</p>
Nov. 3 Nov. 5	<p>Topic: Intentionality &amp; Mental Content Reading: Brentano, "The distinction between mental and physical phenomena" (Chalmers pp. 479-484) Dretske, "A recipe for thought" (Chalmers pp. 491-500) <b>Optional: Kim Ch. 8</b></p>
Nov. 10 Nov. 12	<p>Topic: Content Externalism Reading: Putnam, "The Meaning of 'Meaning'" (Chalmers pp. 581-597) Burge, "Individualism and the Mental" (Chalmers pp. 597-608)</p>
Nov. 17 Nov. 19	<p>Topic: Vehicle Externalism Reading: Clark &amp; Chalmers, "The Extended Mind Hypothesis" (Chalmers 643-651)</p>

	Assignments: Final paper assigned
Nov. 24 Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 1 Dec. 3	Topic: Phenomenological approaches to mind Reading: Horgan & Tienson, "The Intentionality of Phenomenology and the Phenomenology of Intentionality" (Chalmers pp. 520-534)
Dec. 8 Dec. 10	Topic: Summary and Discussion of major course themes
Finals Week	Assignments: Final paper due