

Undergraduate Philosophy of Mind Course

course number here

John M. DePoe, course instructor
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<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Grade Scale</u>												
Exam #1: 30%	F	D-	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Exam #2: 30%	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Exam #3: 30%													
Participation: 10%													

Required Texts

Jaegwon Kim, *Philosophy of Mind*, 2d. ed. (Westview Press, Cambridge, Mass.: 2006).

Other texts listed in the reading schedule will be provided through the course website. These texts have been marked on the reading schedule with an asterisk (*).

Recommended Text

Samuel Guttenplan, ed., *A Companion to the Philosophy of Mind* (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 1996).

Course Description

This course will survey a number of important issues in contemporary philosophy of mind. Some of these issues include the viability of dualism & physicalism, the nature of consciousness, mental causation, and reductionism.

Exams

Students will be given three take-home, essay exams. More details about the nature and expectations of these exams will be given in class. Each exam is worth 30% of the student's overall grade.

Attendance & Participation

Given the difficult nature of many of the readings and topics covered in this course, students are expected to attend class regularly. Students will receive 10% of their overall grade based on their attendance and participation in the course.

Minimal Passing Requirement

In order to pass the course students must meet two basic requirements: (1) they must take all of the exams; and (2) they must attend at least three-fourths of classes. *Those who do not meet these conditions are subject to fail the course regardless of their overall average.*

Tentative Reading Schedule

Week 1: Intro to Philosophy of Mind

Kim, ch. 1

Weeks 2-3: Substance Dualism

Kim, ch. 2

Week 4: Behaviorism

Kim, ch. 3

Week 5: Identity Theory

Kim, ch. 4

Weeks 6-7: Functionalism

Kim, chs. 5-6

Exam 1

Week 8: Mental Causation

Kim, ch. 7

Week 9: Consciousness

Kim, ch. 8

Weeks 10-11: Mental Content

Kim, ch. 9

Week 12: Reductionism

Kim, ch. 10

Exam 2

Week 13-15: The Knowledge Argument

Nagel, "What's it Like to be a Bat"*

Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia"*

Lewis, "What Experience Teaches"*

Conee, "Phenomenal Knowledge"*

Exam 3