PHIL 315/PNP 315: PHILOSOPHY OF MIND
SPRING 2008, TR 11:30AM-1:00PM, MCDONNELL 362
SYLLABUS

Instructor: Thomas Sattig
Office: Wilson Hall 103
Phone: 935-6140
Email: sattig@wustl.edu
Office hours: Thursdays 2-4pm
or by appointment

Teaching assistant: Adam Shriver
Office: Wilson Hall 116
Phone: 935-7913
Email: ajshrive@artsci.wustl.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1-2pm
or by appointment

COURSE OUTLINE
This course is an introduction to contemporary debates in the philosophy of mind. Questions to be discussed include the following: What is a mind? How does what goes on in the mind relate to what goes on in the brain and in the rest of the body? Can a mind exist in a very different kind of body (for example, a computer)? How can mental events have physical consequences? What is the relation between the sciences of the mind, such as psychology, and the fundamental sciences, such as physics? Do we have privileged access to the content of our mental states?

ORGANIZATION
The course will cover 13 topics. Each Tuesday, there will be a lecture on one of these topics. On most Thursdays, there will be a discussion class covering the material from the previous Tuesday. There will be two discussion sections. Students will be allocated alphabetically and instructors will swap sections after topic 7.

READINGS
There are required readings for each topic (usually the equivalent of two book chapters). These readings are all contained in Jaegwon Kim, Philosophy of Mind (Westview, 2nd edition, 2006) and David Chalmers, ed., Philosophy of Mind: Classical and Contemporary Readings (Oxford 2002). Copies of both are available in the bookstore. In addition, there will be an optional reading for each topic, which may be more challenging than the required readings. Each Tuesday a set of questions will be posted on Telesis. These questions will guide our discussion classes on Thursdays. Accordingly, you should come to these classes with notes on each question.

REQUIREMENTS
Two class exams, 1.5 hours each, to be held on February 7 and on March 27. Only the higher of the two grades will count towards the final grade, making up a third of the latter. Furthermore, two papers, 1500 words = 5-7 pages double-spaced in length, due on March 6 and on April 28, each making up a third of the final grade.
UNEXCUSED ABSENTENCES, LATE WORK, PLAGIARISM, PASS-FAIL, INCOMPLETES
6 unexcused absences result in the final grade F. Late work will be docked one letter grade per calendar day (weekends and holidays included). No electronic submissions will be accepted. Students suspected of plagiarism will be turned in to the Academic Integrity Officer; see http://www.wustl.edu/policies/undergraduate-academic-integrity.html for the University plagiarism policy. Students taking the course Pass-Fail must earn at least a C to receive a passing grade. Incompletes will be given only under exceptional circumstances.

SCHEDULE

1  Dualism
   Lecture: 1/15; discussion: 1/17
   Required: Kim Ch. 2
   Optional: Descartes in Chalmers (Chs. 1 & 2)

2  Behaviorism
   Lecture: 1/22; discussion: 1/24
   Required: Kim Ch. 3 and Ryle in Chalmers (Ch. 5)
   Optional: Putnam in Chalmers (Ch. 7)

3  The Identity Theory
   Lecture: 1/29; discussion: 1/31
   Required: Kim Ch. 4
   Optional: J. Kim and R. Brandt, 'The logic of the identity theory',
   Journal of Philosophy 1967, 515-537 [JSTOR]

4  Modal objections to the identity theory
   Lecture: 2/5; no discussion class
   Required: Kripke and Hill in Chalmers (Chs. 32 & 33)
   Optional: Maxwell in Chalmers (Ch. 34)

   First exam, on topics 1-4: 2/7, McDonnell 362

5  Machine functionalism
   Lecture: 2/12; discussion: 2/14
   Required: Kim Ch. 5
   Optional: Putnam in Chalmers (Ch. 11)

6  Causal-theoretical functionalism
   Lecture: 2/19; discussion: 2/22
   Required: Kim Ch. 6, pp. 152-61 & 168-71; Armstrong in Chalmers (Ch. 12)
   Optional: Lewis in Chalmers (Ch. 13)

7  Objections to functionalism

2
Lecture: 2/26; discussion: 2/28
Required: Kim Ch. 6, pp. 161-68; Block and Nida-Rümelin in Chalmers (Chs. 14 & 15)
Optional: S. Shoemaker, 'Absent Qualia are impossible: Reply to Block',
*Philosophical Review* 1981, 581-599 [JSTOR]

8 Reduction and multiple realization
Lecture: 3/4; discussion: 3/6
Required: Fodor and Kim in Chalmers (Chs. 18 & 19)
Optional: J. Fodor, 'The special sciences: still autonomous after all these years',
*Noûs* 1997, 149-63 [JSTOR]

First paper, on topics 5-7, due: 3/6
Spring Break: 3/11 & 3/13

9 Supervenience
Lecture: 3/18; discussion: 3/20
Required: Horgan in Chalmers (Ch. 20)
Optional: 'How superduper does a physicalist supervenience have to be?',
*Philosophical Quarterly* 1999, 33-52.

10 Mental causation
Lecture: 3/25; no discussion class
Required: Kim Ch. 7 and Kim in Chalmers (Ch. 22)

Second exam, on topics 8-10: 3/27, McDonnell 362

11 Consciousness: the knowledge argument
Lecture: 4/1; discussion: 4/3
Required: Jackson and Lewis in Chalmers (Chs. 28 & 29)
Optional: Loar in Chalmers (Ch. 30)

12 Consciousness: the explanatory gap
Lecture: 4/8; discussion: 4/10
Required: Levine and McGinn in Chalmers (Chs. 35 & 38)
Optional: Block & Stalnaker in Chalmers (Ch. 37)

13 Mental content: internalism and externalism
Lecture: 4/15; discussion: 4/17
Required: Kim Ch. 9 and Burge in Chalmers (Ch. 55)
Optional: McKinsey in Chalmers (Ch. 57)

Second paper, on topics 11-13, due: 4/28 (last day of classes)