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New Course Proposal: PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

I. Catalogue Description

PHIL 360 Philosophy of Mind

Hour Designation: 3c-0l-3cr

Credits: 3.0

Focuses on the Mind-Body Problem. Topics covered may include dualism, logical behaviorism, identity theories, functionalism, various forms of physicalism, mental causation, reductionism, and consciousness.

Prerequisites: Philosophy major or minor, or junior or senior standing, or instructor permission.

II. Course Objectives

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- A. Understand fundamental questions in the philosophy of mind.
- B. Analyze relevant concepts in the philosophy of mind in a careful, sustained manner.
- C. Demonstrate analytical and synthesis techniques

III. Detailed Course Outline & Texts

Readings: Kim, Jaegwon. 2006. *Philosophy of Mind 2nd Edition* Westview Press

Additional readings will be made available on the Course Project Directory (the "P: drive").

Week 1: Introduction

Readings: Kim, Chapter 1

Week 2: Substance Dualism

Readings: Kim, Chapter 2

Descartes, Meditations, especially Second and Sixth
 "Dualism" SEP: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/dualism/>

Week 3: Behaviorism

Readings: Kim, Chapter 3

Psychophysical and Theoretical Identifications

Block, "Searle's Argument against Cognitive Science"

Searle, "Minds, Brains, and Programs"

Block, "Searle's Argument against Cognitive Science"

Rey, "Searle's Misunderstandings of Functionalism and Strong AI"

"The Chinese Room Argument" SEP: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/chinese-room/>

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IV. Evaluation Methods: Evaluation methods may vary. A sample Evaluation Methods follows

10 (1 pp. Response Papers)	Throughout the semester	30% of grade
Mid-Term Exam: short-answer, essay questions	March 20th	30% of grade
Term Paper (8-12 pages)	Due May 7th	30% of grade
Participation	Throughout the semester	10% of grade

V. Example Grading Scale

90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59% or less F.

VI. Undergraduate Course Attendance Policy

It is expected that students will attend every scheduled class. Particulars for penalizing missed classes will be left to individual instructors. (See undergraduate catalog for Undergraduate Course Attendance Policy.)

VII. Required Textbooks, Supplemental Books and Readings.

Required texts will vary by semester according to instructor preference. For the benefit of the UWUCC, a sample follows.

1999-10-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

Levine, Joseph. 2001. *Purple Haze*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Loyin, David. 1972. "Deuberhysical and Theoretical Identifications." *Australasian Journal of*

B3. This course will not be cross-listed.

B4. This course will be made available to Continuing Education students.

C. Implementation.

C1. The department can work this course into its rotation of upper-level courses.

~~C2. No additional space, equipment, or supplies are needed.~~

C3. None of the resources for this course is based on a grant.

~~C4. We expect to offer one section every two to four years. This course is not particularly~~

designed for or restricted to certain seasonal semesters.

~~C5. Only one section of this course is offered in the summer semester.~~

SUBJECT: New Course Proposal - PHIL 360 Philosophy of Mind

TO: _____ University Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

DATE: Feb. 17, 2010

I wish to lend my strong support to this proposal for an undergraduate course entitled, "Philosophy of Mind." As indicated in the proposal, this is a standard and important undergraduate course in university departments of philosophy. Because my own research deals with the unsolved problem of how sensory input is encoded both as neural activity and as experience, I have done a fair amount of reading in this area, and I have come to consider it

PHIL 360: Philosophy of Mind

LIBERAL STUDIES COURSE APPROVAL, PARTS I-III: GENERAL INFORMATION CHECK-LIST

I. Please indicate the LS category(ies) for which you are applying:

LEARNING SKILLS:

First Composition Course Second Composition Course
 Mathematics

KNOWLEDGE AREAS:

<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities: History	<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities: Philos/Rel Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities: Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Western Cultures
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Sci: Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellness
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Sci: Non-Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Liberal Studies Elective

Liberal Studies Course Approval, Part IV (PHIL 360: Philosophy of Mind)

A. The Departmental Curriculum Coordinator ensures that individual instructors' syllabi are ~~basically equivalent in terms of objectives, content, and evaluation to the syllabi of~~

record. Individual instructors also meet periodically to exchange and discuss syllabi.

B. In this course students will explore the relationship between the mind and the physical body (including but not necessarily limited to the brain.) In essence, this asks students to ponder how our understanding of human beings is to fit within our broader understanding of nature. In that way, we are focusing on what individual humans have in common with each other- not where they differ. As such, the readings of this course will include any authors and writings that are relevant to the topic. Faculty will make every effort to assign articles by women and minorities from the contemporary literature in philosophy of mind. (Works by Lynne Rudder Baker and Ruth Milikan are listed on the sample bibliography. for instance.)

C. Students will be introduced to a number of well-known articles and selected chapters from a wide range of philosophers- both historical and contemporary. In particular, students will be reading primary sources- be they from such historical figures as Descartes, or groundbreaking contemporary work by people such as Fodor and Dennett. Students will not, in other words

CHECK LIST -- LIBERAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

Knowledge Area Criteria which the course must meet:

~~Treat concepts, themes and events in sufficient depth to enable students to appreciate the complexity~~