

University of Central Florida
PHI 3320: Philosophy of Mind
Fall 2017, Syllabus, v. 08222017



Course Information

- Title: Philosophy of Mind
- Course number: PHI 3320
- Credit hours: 3.0
- Term: Fall semester 2017
- Mode: Web

Instructor Information

- Name: Luis Favela, Ph.D. (Please refer to me as “Dr. Favela” or “Professor Favela.”)
- Email: luis.favela@ucf.edu
- Website: <http://philosophy.cah.ucf.edu/staff.php?id=1017>
- Office location: PSY 0245
- Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Course Description

- Catalogue description: Recent and contemporary attempts to understand the relation of mind to body, the relation of consciousness to personhood, and the relation of psychology to neurobiology.
- Detailed description: This course introduces some of the main arguments, concepts, and theories in the philosophy of mind. Some of the questions addressed in the philosophy of mind include: “What are minds made of,” “How does the mind relate to the brain,” and “what is consciousness?” Answers to these questions have consequences for a wide range of other disciplines, including computer science, ethics, neuroscience, and theology. The first part of the course covers the main philosophical views concerning mind, such as dualism, behaviorism, identity theory, functionalism, and eliminativism. The second part of the course focuses on consciousness, and questions such as: “Does ‘consciousness’ exist,” “Is consciousness physical,” and “Can there be a science of consciousness?”

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to *describe* the main philosophical views concerning the mind.
 - Students will be able to *reconstruct* the arguments underlying the main philosophical views concerning the mind.
 - Students will be able to *articulate* their positions concerning whether or not they agree with the conclusions of the arguments behind the main philosophical views concerning the mind.
- Students will be able to *describe* problems related to consciousness.
 - Students will be able to *reconstruct* the arguments underlying problems related to consciousness.
 - Students will be able to *articulate* their positions concerning problems related to consciousness.

Notes Regarding Web Format and Time Commitment

- Web format: Although the material you learn in this web-based course is the same as a face-to-face course, there is one major difference: This course is largely independent and requires a high degree of time management on your part. It is your responsibility to login to Webcourses multiple times per week and keep track of assignment availability and due dates.
- Time commitment: This is a three-credit course over a 15-week period and covers the same amount of material as a face-to-face course. The expectation of a three-credit course over a 15-week semester is that there will be three hours of class time each week (45 hours for semester) and two hours (minimum) of study time for every hour of class time (90 hours for semester), for a total of 135 hours devoted to each class. Although a web-based format, this course will require *at least nine hours per week* of your time. These nine hours (minimum) will include “class” time in the form of students reading textbook and slides (three hours per week) and study time in the form of reviewing notes, etc. (six hours per week).

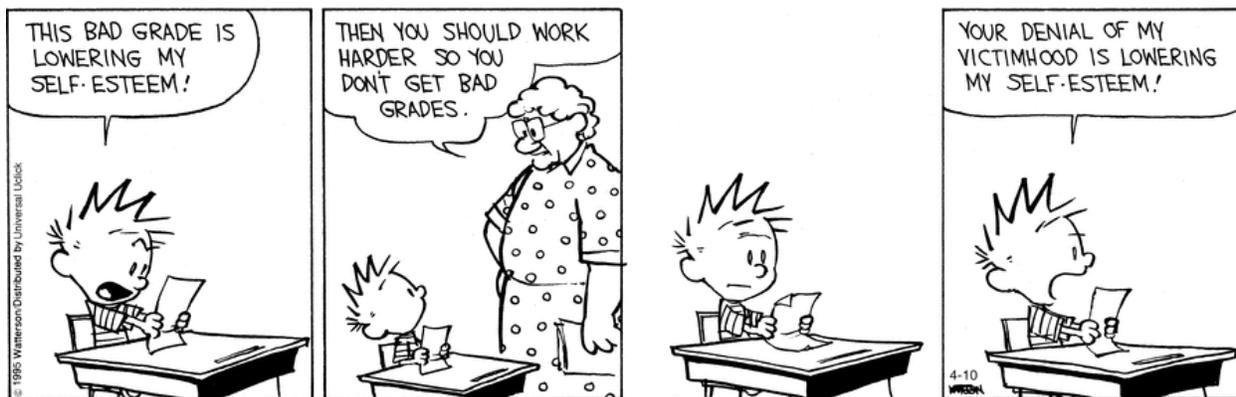
Course Materials

- All readings and materials are provided in Webcourses as PDFs or links.

Course Requirements

- **Required Academic Activity**
 - All instructors are required to document students’ academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity by the end of the first week of class or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.
 - Activity: RAA quiz:
 - After you read the syllabus, take the RAA (Required Academic Activity) Quiz in Webcourses as an indicator that you understand the expectations and policies of this course.
 - Available 8:00 am EST, Monday, August 21.
 - Due 5:00 pm EST, Friday, August 25.
- Quizzes
 - There will be 13 quizzes; about one per week.
 - Quiz questions will be based on material from the assigned readings and lecture slides.
- Exam
 - Covers topics one through seven.
 - Guidelines and expectations will be distributed closer to the assignment date.
- Paper
 - Students will have one paper assignment, about six pages/1,800 words.
 - Non-cumulative. Covers topics eight through 13.
 - Guidelines and expectations will be distributed closer to the assignment dates.
- Note: You are responsible for all reading assignments. Unless stated otherwise (e.g., “optional” readings), anything assigned to you is potential quiz or paper material.

Grading



- Quizzes
 - 13 quizzes, 20 points each, 260 points total
 - Combined 20% of total grade, each quiz ~1.5% of total grade
- Exam: One exam, 520 points, 40% of total grade
- Paper: One paper, 520 points, 40% of total grade
- Total
 - 1300 points
 - A = 1300-1170
 - B = 1169-1040
 - C = 1039-910
 - D = 909-780
 - F = 779-0
 - The following example demonstrates how +/- are assigned:
 - B- = 80, 81, 82%
 - B = 83, 84, 85, 86%
 - B+ = 87, 88, 89%
 - Percentages are not rounded, for example, an 80.2% is a B-, an 82.6% is a B-, an 89.8% is a B+, etc.
 - There are no A+ or F+ grades.
- Grade distributions: The final grades will not be curved.
- Extra credit: There is no extra credit.
- Incomplete grades: The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. As the instructor for this course, I am the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the “I” will automatically be recorded as an “F” on your transcript.
- Extensions and late assignments
 - In general, no extensions will be allowed or late assignments accepted. (Really.)
 - However, extensions and late assignments will be considered for exceptional circumstances (e.g., family or medical emergencies) if appropriate documentation can be provided (e.g., doctor’s note, funeral program, etc.).

- If an assignment is accepted late, then it will be deducted 5% of the total possible point value of the assignment for every 12-hour block of time, including weekends. For example, if an assignment is due Monday at 11:59 pm and it is submitted on Tuesday at 12:01 am, then that assignment will lose 5%; if it is turned in on Tuesday at 1:00 pm, then it will lose 10%; and so on.
- Grade dissemination: You can access your scores at any time using the Grade Book function of Webcourses. If you need help accessing myUCF Grades, see the online tutorial: <https://myucfgrades.ucf.edu/help/>.

Course Policies

- Contact procedures
 - In-person contact: If you have questions related to the course, then see me during my office hours. We can attempt to schedule another time if you are unable to meet during those.
 - Email and professionalism: I strongly believe that the university is a professional environment and that you and I are in a professional relationship. As such, be professional when you message me—for example, begin your message with “Hello Dr. Favela” and not “Hey you, can I have...” In addition, write complete sentences, be clear and concise, and reread messages before sending them. I will give one warning and then stop responding to your messages if they are unprofessional and/or discourteous. Allow 24 hours for a response during the week, and possibly more during the weekend and holidays.
 - Skype: If an issue comes up such that you prefer to talk instead of exchanging emails and you are unable to attend office hours or schedule an alternate in-person meeting time, then contact me and we can arrange to meet via Skype <dr.luis.favela>.
 - Webcourses: **Do not contact me via Webcourses.** I do not check it and will not reply.
- Academic integrity and plagiarism
 - As reflected in the UCF creed (<http://creed.ucf.edu>), integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University’s Rules of Conduct (see www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu).
 - Plagiarism: Many incidents of plagiarism result from students’ lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism. However, you are expected to familiarize yourself with UCF’s policy on plagiarism. All work you submit must be your own scholarly and creative efforts. UCF’s Golden Rule defines plagiarism as follows: “whereby another’s work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student’s own.”
 - Plagiarism-detection service: In this course we will utilize turnitin.com, an automated system which I use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student papers that grows with each submission. Accordingly, you will be expected to submit all assignments to both turnitin.com and me. After the assignment is processed, I receive a report from

turnitin.com that states if and how another author's work was used in the assignment. For a more detailed look at this process visit <http://www.turnitin.com>.

- Course accessibility: It is my goal that this class be an accessible and welcoming experience for all students, including those with disabilities that may impact learning in this class. If anyone believes the design of this course poses barriers to effectively participating and/or demonstrating learning in this course, please meet with me (with or without a Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodation letter) to discuss reasonable options or adjustments. During our discussion, I may suggest the possibility/necessity of your contacting SAS (Ferrell Commons 185; 407-823-2371; sas@ucf.edu) to talk about academic accommodations. You are welcome to talk to me at any point in the semester about course design concerns, but it is always best if we can talk at least one week prior to the need for any modifications.
- Syllabus adjustments: The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to all parts of the syllabus during the course. If any adjustments are made, the instructor will inform students of such changes.
- **Copyright:** Unless otherwise stated, I reserve all rights for all course materials I create (e.g., syllabus, lecture materials, quizzes, etc.). Thus, this material may not be displayed, distributed, modified, or reproduced without prior written permission of the copyright holder: Luis H. Favela, Ph.D. Consequently, it would be illegal for you to post course materials on websites such as, but not limited to, Course Hero, Course Notes, etc.

Important Dates < <http://calendar.ucf.edu/2017/fall>>

- Classes begin: August 21
- Last day to drop and request full refund: August 24
- Add deadline: 11:59 pm, August 25
- Withdrawal deadline: 11:59 pm, October 30
- Classes end: December 2
- Finals: December 4-9
- Grades available: 9:00 am, December 15

Topic, Reading, and Video Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	Videos
1	Aug 21 - 27	1. Introduction	1-3	A, B
2	Aug 28 - Sep 3	2. Dualism	4-5	C, D
3	Sep 4 - 10	3. Identity theory	6-7	E
4	Sep 11 - 17	4. Behaviorism	8	F
5	Sep 18 - 24	5. Functionalism	9-10	G-I
6	Sep 25 - Oct 1	6. Machine functionalism	11-12	H-L
7	Oct 2 - 8	7. Eliminative materialism	13-14	M-N
8	Oct 9 - 15	Review and exam		
9	Oct 16 - 22	8. Consciousness: Problems	15-16	O-P
10	Oct 23 - 29	9. Consciousness: Qualia	17-19	Q-S
11	Oct 30 - Nov 5	10. Consciousness: Zombies	20-22	T-U
12	Nov 6 - 12	11. Consciousness: Science	23-24	V
13	Nov 13 - 19	12. Consciousness: Neural correlates	25-26	None
14	Nov 20 - 26	13. Consciousness: Integrated information theory	27-29	W-X
15	Nov 27 - Dec 3	13. Cont. and Review		
16	Dec 4 - Dec 9	Finals Week		

Assignment Schedule

Assignment	Material	Dates
Quiz 1	Readings 1-3; lecture slides; videos A-B	12:00 pm, Thu, Aug 24 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Aug 27
Quiz 2	Readings 4-5; lecture slides; videos C-D	12:00 pm, Thu, Aug 31 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Sep 3
Quiz 3	Readings 6-7; lecture slides; video E	12:00 pm, Thu, Sep 7 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Sep 10
Quiz 4	Reading 8; lecture slides; video F	12:00 pm, Thu, Sep 14 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Sep 17
Quiz 5	Readings 9-10; lecture slides; videos G-I	12:00 pm, Thu, Sep 21 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Sep 24
Quiz 6	Readings 11-12; lecture slides, videos H-L	12:00 pm, Thu, Sep 28 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Oct 1
Quiz 7	Readings 13-14; lecture slides; videos M-N	12:00 pm, Thu, Oct 5 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Oct 8
Exam	Readings 2-14; lecture slides; videos A-N	12:00 pm, Mon, Oct 9 - 11:59 pm, Wed, Oct 18
Quiz 8	Readings 15-16; lecture slides; videos O-P	12:00 pm, Thu, Oct 19 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Oct 22

Quiz 9	Readings 17-19; lecture slides; videos Q-S	12:00 pm, Thu, Oct 26 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Oct 29
Quiz 10	Readings 20-22; lecture slides; videos T-U	12:00 pm, Thu, Nov 2 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Nov 5
Quiz 11	Readings 23-24; lecture slides; video V	12:00 pm, Thu, Nov 9 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Nov 12
Quiz 12	Readings 25-26; lecture slides	12:00 pm, Thu, Nov 16 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Nov 19
Quiz 13	Readings 27-29; lectures slides; videos W-X	12:00 pm, Wed, Nov 22 - 11:59 pm, Sun, Dec 3
Paper	Readings 15-29	Assigned Nov 6. Due 11:59 pm, Sat, Dec 9

Readings

1. Syllabus
2. Bisson (1991) They're Made Out of Meat
3. Weed (2011) Philosophy Mind Overview
4. Descartes (1641-2006) Meditations 1.2.6
5. Robinson (2016) Dualism _SEP
6. Place (1956) Consciousness Brain Process
7. Polger (2009) Identity Theories
8. Graham (2015) Behaviorism _SEP
9. Polger (2010) Functionalism _IEP
10. Block (1978-2007) Troubles With Functionalism
11. Turing (1950) Computing Machinery Intelligence
12. Searle (1990) Is Brains Mind Computer Program
13. Ramsey (2013) Eliminative Materialism _SEP
14. Churchland (1981) Eliminative Materialism Propositional Attitudes
15. Nagel (1974) What Is It Like to Be a Bat
16. Chalmers (1995) Facing Up Problem Consciousness
17. Jackson (1982) Epiphenomenal Qualia
18. Levine (1983) Materialism Qualia Explanatory Gap
19. Dennett (1988-1993) Quining Qualia
20. Kind (2011) Chalmers Zombie Argument
21. Koch & Crick (2001) The zombie within
22. Dennett (1995) Unimagined Preposterousness Zombies
23. Churchland (2005) Neurophilosophical Slant Consciousness Research
24. Edelman (2003) Naturalizing Consciousness
25. Chalmers (1998) On Search Neural Correlate Consciousness
26. Blackmore (2015) Neural Correlates Consciousness
27. Tononi & Koch (2015) Consciousness here there everywhere
28. Searle (2013) Can Information Theory Explain Consciousness
29. Koch Tononi Searle (2013) Can Photodiode Be Conscious

Videos

- A. They're made out of meat <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tScAyNaRdQ>> (~6 minutes)
- B. Searle, Dennett, Block, and Schwitzgebel sections on "What is the mind-body problem?" at Closer to Truth <<https://www.closetotruth.com/series/what-the-mind-body-problem>> (total time ~18 minutes)
- C. Cartesian Dualism. Philosophy Tube. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jteIKYWAS4A>> (watch first ~5 minutes)
- D. Substance Dualism (Part 1 of 2). Qualia Soup. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RS4PW35-Y00>> (~10 minutes)
- E. Philosophy of Mind 3: The Identity Theory <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O68L7TsVtiU>> (~50 minutes) (especially watch: ~0:00-7:30, 8:30-20:00, 35:40-42:13, 42:14-52:00)
- F. Philosophy of Mind 2: Logical Behaviorism <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwat9ZFPHNU>> (~50 minutes) (especially watch: 0:00~20:00, ~33:50-40:00, ~44:33-50:00)
- G. What is Functionalism? Carneades.org. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5AwaFsp5Os>> (~5 minutes)
- H. Philosophy of Mind 4.1: Functionalism <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwMPFj6b--8>> (week 5 watch 0:00-22:30; week 6 watch ~21:00-23:00)
- I. Philosophy of Mind 4.2: Objections to Functionalism <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmEk1lq_Wgk> (week 5 watch ~0:00-7:05; week 6 watch ~11:30-28:30)
- J. Turing Machines Explained - Computerphile <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dNRDvLACg5Q>> (~5 minutes)
- K. The Chinese Room - 60-Second Adventures in Thought <www.youtube.com/watch?v=TryOC83PH1g> (~1 minute)
- L. Is your Brain a Computer? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8q_UXpHsaY> (~6:30 minutes)
- M. Patricia Churchland on Eliminative Materialism <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzT0jHJdq7Q>> (~9 minutes)
- N. Churchland's Materialism <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAybGdBg-T4>> (~6 minutes)
- O. Why is consciousness so mysterious? Closer to Truth. Watch all six: Searle, Chalmers, Yifa, Blackmore, Ward, and Minsky. <<https://www.closetotruth.com/series/why-consciousness-so-mysterious>> (~17 minutes)
- P. The Hard Problem of Consciousness, David Chalmers. Serious Science. <<http://serious-science.org/the-hard-problem-of-consciousness-6131>> (~9 minutes)
- Q. What are Qualia? Carneades.org. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zuj0zXfJfZM>> (~3 minutes)
- R. Consciousness, Qualia, and Self. V.S. Ramachandran. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTWmTJALe1w>> (~8 minutes)
- S. Frank Jackson - The Knowledge Argument - Mary's Room - Mary the Super-Scientist. <www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZy3Ky9y_fg> (~5 minutes)

- T. Are you surrounded by Zombies?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07JM_8AQ6WA> (~3 minutes)
- U. Blindsight, Christof Koch. Cool psychologist
<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4SYxTecL8E>> (~5 minutes)
- V. Philosophy in the Age of Neuroscience (Patricia Churchland)
<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8-RhC5slzk&list=PL0D43FD1231528FF6>> (~45 minutes; stop ~6 minutes into part 5)
- W. Giulio Tononi interview
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ0I8BvvXNc&list=PLMDgR9XqmpVT7ZJVkc_N0oKdEV3Aq7cFS&index=3> (watch all eight parts, ~72 minutes total)
- X. Christof Koch (2014) Integrated Information Theory of Consciousness. Center for Brains, Minds and Machines (CBMM) <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGd8p-GSLgY>>
(For discussion of integrated information jump to ~37 minutes, length ~40 minutes)