

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
Undergraduate Course Outline 2018-19**

**Philosophy 2400-001: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind**

**Fall Term 2018**

**W 10:30-11:30 F 10:30-12:30**

**Classroom: WL 258**

**TA Chang Liu, cliu486@uwo.ca**

**STVH 3153**

**Instructor: Chris Viger**

**STVH 4149**

**Fall Office Hours W 11:30-1:30**

**519-661-2111 x 85755**

**cviger@uwo.ca**

**DESCRIPTION**

The course surveys historical and contemporary views about the relationship between the mind and body and the place of mental properties in the natural world. The readings are from primary sources with accompanying commentary. Topics include metaphysical questions about the nature of the world (materialism, idealism, or dualism), materialist theories of mind (behaviourism, identity theory, functionalism), and questions about the possibility of artificial intelligence, the special nature of consciousness, what mental states are, how they get their meaning, and how they cause behaviour.

**TEXTS**

*A Historical Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind*, 2nd Edition, Peter Morton. Broadview (2010).

**OBJECTIVES**

1. Develop critical reading and writing skills.
2. Develop oral presentation skills through class discussions.
3. Understand the historical development of the mind-body problem.
4. Understand contemporary views about the mind-body problem.
5. Understand specific problems associated with each view about the nature of the mind.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Term paper 1	25%
Term paper 2	35%
Final Exam	40%

**AUDIT**

Students wishing to audit the course should consult with the instructor prior to or during the first week of classes.

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY POLICIES**

The **Department of Philosophy Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/policies.html>.

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at [http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

### **ACADEMIC OFFENCES**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **PLAGIARISM CHECKING**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>  
Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>  
Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>  
Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.