

Phi 334 Philosophy of Mind
Hanover College, Winter 2013
11:00-11:50am, MWF, CLA 302

Jared Bates

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Winter 2013 Office Hours: 10-11 MWF, 10-12 T, and by appointment

<http://vault.hanover.edu/~bates/philmind/>

Course Description

Philosophy of Mind studies the nature of mentality (e.g., thinking, feeling, perceiving) and how it fits in with the rest of the world. This class begins with an overview of problems and theoretical approaches in recent philosophy of mind. After this introductory survey, we will embark on an in-depth study of Chris Hill's recent representationalist account of conscious experience. Our job will be to develop an understanding of the main issues, positions and arguments in this area and to decide whether Hill does a good job making his case.

Texts

Jaegwon Kim. 2011. *Philosophy of mind*, 3rd ed. (Boulder, CO: Westview Press). [Kim]

Christopher S. Hill. 2009. *Consciousness*. (New York: Cambridge University Press). [Hill]

Michael Tye. 1999. "Phenomenal consciousness: the explanatory gap as a cognitive illusion" *Mind* 108: 705-725. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2660075> [Tye]

Course Requirements & Grading

This semester, students will write nine argument analysis papers on the reading assignments, complete one major thesis-defense project, attend and participate regularly in class discussions, and take a comprehensive final exam. The nine short papers are due in class on Monday of the week the reading is assigned. (These readings are *'d on the reading schedule below.) The thesis-defense paper project has a sequence of due dates elaborated on a separate handout. The final exam will be scheduled for the week of 15 Apr. The below grading scheme presupposes regular attendance and class participation; lack thereof will result in a lowered grade.

<u>Point Distributions</u>		<u>Letter Grade Distributions</u>			
9 argument analyses, 25ea	225	A 420-450	B+ 390-404	C+ 345-359	D+ 300-314
Thesis-defense paper project	125		B 375-389	C 330-344	D 285-299
Final exam	100	A- 405-419	B- 360-374	C- 315-329	D- 270-284
Total:	450			F 0-269	

Special Information

- Americans with Disabilities Act: If you have any special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and need course materials or tests in alternative formats, notify me immediately. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.
- Academic Dishonesty: Academic honesty is essential to the intellectual life of the College. Thus, academic dishonesty, such as cheating and plagiarism, is a basis for disciplinary action. No suspected case of academic dishonesty will be taken lightly; all will be handled in accordance with the student conduct code.

- Dropping this course: The deadline for discretionary withdrawal from any class is 5:00pm, Friday, March 8.
- Degree Requirements: This course counts as an elective toward the Philosophy major or minor.

Reading Schedule

Date	Readings
Jan 7	Kim, Ch 1: Introduction
14	* Kim, Ch 2: Substance Dualism
21	* Kim, Chs 3 & 4: Logical Behaviorism & Type Materialism
28	* Kim, Chs 5 & 6: Functionalism
Feb 4	* Kim, Ch 8: Mental Content
11	* Kim, Chs 9 & 10: Consciousness and Physicalism
18	* Tye, "Phenomenal consciousness: the explanatory gap as a cognitive illusion"
25	Winter Break
Mar 4	* Hill, Ch 1: Forms of Consciousness
11	Hill, Ch 2: Theories of Qualia
18	* Hill, Chs 3 & 4: Awareness, Representation and Experience/The Refutation of Dualism
25	Hill, Ch 5: Visual Awareness and Visual Qualia
Apr 1	* Hill, Chs 6 & 7: Paradox of Pain/Emotional Qualia
8	Hill, Chs 8 & 9: Introspection and Consciousness/Conclusion
15	Finals Week

NB: The reading schedule lists each week of the semester by Monday's date. Readings cover the entire week and should always be completed before class on Monday. This schedule is subject to change.