

Philosophy 1320: Theories of the Mind, §D1  
Instructor: Russell Marcus  
Spring 2007  
<http://philosophy.thatmarcusfamily.org>

Stern College for Women  
Yeshiva University  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:25pm - 2:40pm  
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## Syllabus

### Required Text:

Peter Morton, *A Historical Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind*, Broadview Press, 1997.

### Recommended Texts:

Paul Churchland, *Matter and Consciousness*, The MIT Press.

Lecture notes for the course, available at:

[http://www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Mind/Lecture\\_Notes/Lessons\\_Central.htm](http://www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Mind/Lecture_Notes/Lessons_Central.htm)

Additional readings which will be indicated in the lecture notes, and which may be available on line, at:

[http://www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Mind/Handouts/Handouts\\_Central.htm](http://www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Mind/Handouts/Handouts_Central.htm)  
and/or, on reserve in the Stern College library.

### Topics and Readings:

#### I. The Ancients

Plato, from the *Phaedo*, pp 15-25.

Aristotle, from *On the Soul* and *Sense and Sensibilia*, pp 39-42.

#### II. The Scientific Revolution and Descartes

Galileo, from *The Assayer*; pp 57-9.

Descartes, from *The World or Treatise on Light*, *Principles of Philosophy*, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, and *Discourse on Method*; pp 60-2; 75-88; 102-3.

Arnauld, from *Objections to Descartes' Meditations*, pp 104-7

Descartes, from *Reply to Arnauld*, and *Principles of Philosophy*, pp 108-14.

#### III. Materialism and Idealism

Locke, from *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, pp 114-6.

Hobbes, from *Leviathan*, pp 129-133.

Berkeley, from *The Principles*, pp 134-40.

#### IV. Behaviorism

Skinner, from *Science and Human Behavior*, pp 160-3.

Hempel, "The Logical Analysis of Psychology," 164-73.

Ryle, from *The Concept of Mind*, pp 187-97.

#### V. Identity Theory

Armstrong, "The Nature of Mind," pp 225-233.

Smart, "Sensations and Brain Processes;" pp 233-242.

Kripke, from "Identity and Necessity," pp 243-250.

#### VI. Functionalism

Putnam, "The Nature of Mental States," pp 320-327.

Fodor, from "Something on the State of the Art," pp 328-333.

Fodor and Block, "What Psychological States Are Not," pp 333-4.

#### VII. Eliminative Materialism

Rorty, from *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*, pp 351-354.

Patricia Churchland, from *Neurophilosophy: Toward a Unified Science of the Mind-Brain*, pp 355-366.

## VIII. Artificial Intelligence

Turing, "Computing Machinery and Intelligence," pp 265-282.

Searle, "Minds, Brains, and Programs," pp 282-296.

## IX. Consciousness

Nagel, "What is it Like to Be a Bat?" pp 391-400.

Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia," pp 401-408.

Dennett, "Quining Qualia," pp 409-434.

A tentative detailed schedule, including specific dates for each reading, is available on the html version of this syllabus, at: <http://www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Mind/Syllabus.htm>

The page numbers listed above refer to the source as it appears in the Morton collection. Morton also provides introductory passages which you may find useful. I will indicate those passages I find most important in the lecture notes.

If there is time, at the end of the term, I might assign additional readings from the Intentionality section of the Morton collection.

### Course Requirements:

1. All the readings listed above.
2. Attendance and participation. (10%)
3. Two short (4-6 page, 1000-1800 words) essays. (60%; 30% each)
4. Final Exam. (30%)

The weights for each assignment above are tentative. If I feel the need, I may give some short quizzes at the beginning of classes, and adjust the weights for each assignment. There is no specific attendance requirement, though attendance is strongly recommended, and there will be no make-ups for any missed quizzes. Quizzes, if there are any, will be announced.