**PHILOSOPHY 3830**

**Consciousness**

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| Instructor | Course Details |
| TBA | Course # TBA |
| Email: TBA | Call # TBA |
| Office: TBA | Location: TBA |
| Office hours: TBA | Time: TBA |

**Course description:** this course is an introduction to consciousness with a focus on the interactions between philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience. Topics will include concepts of consciousness, the hard problem of consciousness, neural correlates of consciousness, global workspace theories, higher-order theories, representational theories, change blindness, the persistent vegetative state, the unity of consciousness, the function of consciousness, and the role of consciousness in perception, cognition, introspection, action, and free will.

**Course goals:** developing analytical reasoning skills and integrating philosophical and scientific work on consciousness.

**Course requirements:** grades will be based on attendance and participation (25%) and three short 5-6 page papers (25% each). All three papers must be completed in order to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized by a third of a letter grade per day.

**Course materials:** there is no text book for the class. All readings will be available via Carmen.

**Course attendance and participation:** this is a discussion-based class and a so significant portion of your final grade will be based upon attendance and participation. Students are expected to attend all classes, to complete the assigned reading in advance, and to participate regularly in class discussion. A record of attendance will be taken. Please turn off laptops and other electronic devices during class.

**Paper deadlines:** paper topics will be announced two weeks in advance of the deadline.

* First paper deadline: TBA
* Second paper deadline: TBA
* Third paper deadline: TBA

**Guidelines:** please read James Pryor’s guidelines on reading and writing a philosophy paper at <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/index.html>

**Academic Misconduct**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

**Disability Services**

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/

**Course Outline**

**The Hard Problem of Consciousness**

Nagel: ‘What is it Like to be a Bat?’

Chalmers: ‘Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness’

Dennett: ‘Facing Backwards on the Problem of Consciousness’

**Concepts of Consciousness**

Block: ‘Some Concepts of Consciousness’

Dennett: ‘The Path Not Taken’

**Neural Correlates of Consciousness**

Crick and Koch: ‘Toward a Neurobiological Theory of Consciousness’

Block: ‘How Not to Find the Neural Correlate of Consciousness’

**Consciousness and Accessibility**

Baars: ‘Global Workspace Theory’ or ‘The Conscious Access Hypothesis’

Dehaene: ‘Neural Mechanisms for Access to Consciousness’

Lamme: ‘Why Visual Attention and Awareness Are Different’

Block: ‘Perceptual Consciousness Overflows Cognitive Access’

**Change Blindness**

Dretske: ‘What Change Blindness Teaches About Consciousness’

Tye: ‘Attention, Seeing, and Change Blindness’

**Higher-Order Theories of Consciousness**

Rosenthal: ‘A Theory of Consciousness’

Dretske: ‘Conscious Experience’

Byrne: ‘Some like it HOT’

Lau and Rosenthal: ‘Empirical Support for Higher-Order Theories’

**Representational Theories of Consciousness**

Harman: ‘The Intrinsic Quality of Experience’

Tye: ‘A Representational Theory of Pains and their Phenomenal Character’

Peacocke: ‘Sensation and the Content of Experience’

Block: ‘Mental Paint’

**The Function of Consciousness**

Dretske, ‘What Good is Consciousness?’

Rosenthal, ‘Consciousness and its Function’

**Consciousness and Perception**

Weiskrantz: *Consciousness Lost and Found*, Ch. 1

Merikle: ‘Perception without Awareness’

Dretske: ‘Perception without Awareness’

Smithies: ‘Perception and the External World’

**Consciousness and the Vegetative State**

Owen: ‘Detecting Awareness in the Vegetative State’

Shea and Bayne: ‘The Vegetative State and the Science of Consciousness’

**Consciousness and Introspection**

Schwitzgebel: ‘The Unreliability of Naïve Introspection’

Bayne and Spener: ‘Introspective Humility’

**The Unity of Consciousness**

Gazzaniga: ‘The Split Brain in Man’

Nagel: ‘Brain Bisection and the Unity of Consciousness’

Chalmers and Bayne: ‘What is the Unity of Consciousness?’

Bayne: ‘The Unity of Consciousness and the Split-Brain Syndrome’

**Consciousness and Action**

Milner and Goodale: ‘Precis of *The Visual Brain in Action*’

Clark: ‘Visual Experience and Motor Action: Are the Bonds Too Tight?’

Wallhagen: ‘Consciousness and Action: Does Cognitive Science Support (Mild) Epiphenomenalism’

**Consciousness and Free Will**

Wegner, *The Illusion of Conscious Will* (selections)

Libet, ‘Do We Have Free Will?’

Bayne, ‘Libet and the Case for Free Will Skepticism’

Mele, ‘Free Will: Action Theory Meets Neuroscience’

**Consciousness and Cognition**

Nisbett and Wilson: ‘Telling More Than We Can Know’

Bargh and Chartrand: ‘The Unbearable Automaticity of Being’

Bargh and Morsella: ‘The Unconscious Mind’

Dijksterhuis and Nordgren: ‘A Theory of Unconscious Thought’

Baumeister, Masicampo, and Voh: ‘Do Conscious Thoughts Cause Behavior?’

Baumeister and Bargh: ‘Conscious and Unconscious’