

Unit Information Sheet 2012

Intro to Philosophy B: Time, Self, & Mind (ATS1835)

Contact Info

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Consultation hours:	Announced in tutorials.

Text

Required text: *Unit Study Guide/Reader* (collection of readings and summaries of topics, available for purchase in Bookshop).

Assessments

Assessment Tasks	Value	Due Date
AT1 (Short answer, 600 words)	10%	5pm Fri. Aug 10 (Week 3)
AT2 (Short answer, 600 words)	10%	5pm Fri. Aug 31 (Week 6)
AT3 (Short answer, 600 words)	10%	5pm Fri. Sept 21 (Week 9)
AT4 (Essay, 1250 words)	30%	5pm Fri. Oct. 19 (Week 12)
Exam (2 hours)	40%	TBA



UNIT SCHEDULE

Note: All of the required readings are in the Study Guide/Reader.

Week	Lecture#	Title	Reading #	Assessment
Part 1: Time Travel & Free Will (Lecturer: JM, PD)				
1	1	Coherent Time Travel Stories?	Bradbury (1.1)	
	2	Four Dimensionalism	Lewis (1.2)	
2	3	Evaluating 4D	Grey (1.3), Smith (1.4)	
	4	Foreknowledge & Fatalism	Taylor (1.5)	
3	5	Freedom & Determinism	Taylor (1.5)	AT1 Due: Fri. Aug 10
	6	Freedom & Indeterminism	Anscombe (1.6)	
Part 2: Logic Interlude (Lecturer: JM)				
4	7	Consistency, Rational Belief	Dowden (2.1)	
	8	Arguments: Form and Content	Dowden (2.2)	
Part 3: Minds & Machines (Lecturer: JM, JCD)				
5	9	Dualism about the Mind	Bisson (3.1) Descartes (3.2)	
	10	Turing: Machines <i>Can</i> Think	Turing (3.3)	
6	11	<i>No Lecture</i>	None	AT2 Due: Fri Aug 31
	12	(Catch up, Work on AT2)		
7	13	Searle: Machines <i>Can't</i> Think	Searle (3.4)	
	14	Responses to Searle	N/A	
Part 4: The Self (Lecturer: JCD)				
8	15	Lockean Psychological Theory	Gibson (4.1) Locke (4.2)	
	16	Does Identity Matter?	Parfit (4.3)	
9	17	Identity & the Body	Williams (4.4)	AT3 Due: Fri Sept 21
	18	Person Stages	Lewis (4.5)	
<i>Mid-Semester Break</i> (Sept. 24-28)				
Part 5: Knowledge (Lecturer: JCD)				
10	19	What is Knowledge?	Plato (5.1)	
	20	Gettier Against the Tradition	Gettier (5.2)	
11	21	Nozick's Tracking Account	Nozick (5.3)	
	22	Scepticism	Descartes (5.4)	
12	23	The Moorean Response	Moore (5.5)	Essay Due: Fri Oct 19
	24	The Tracking Response	Nozick (5.6)	
		SWOT VAC		Oct 22 - 26
		Examination Period		Oct 29 - Nov 16

Required Readings

INTRODUCTION.....

PART 1: TIME TRAVEL & FREE WILL.....

Notes by Aubrey Townsend

- 1.1 Bradbury, Ray (1953) ‘A Sound of Thunder’
From his *The Golden Apples of the Sun*, London, pp. 203-215.
- 1.2 Lewis, David (1976) ‘The Paradoxes of Time Travel’
From *American Philosophical Quarterly* 13, pp. 145-152.
- 1.3 Smith, Nicholas (1997) ‘Bananas Enough for Time Travel?’
Excerpts from *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 48, pp. 368-370.
- 1.4 Grey, William (1994) ‘Some Problems about Time Travel’
Written for this collection, 6 pp.
- 1.5 Taylor, Richard (1974) ‘Freedom, Determinism and Fate’
Excerpts from Chapters 5 and 6 of his *Metaphysics*, Second Edition, New Jersey.
- 1.6 Anscombe, Elizabeth (1971) ‘Causality and Determination’ (Part 2)
Cambridge University Press, pp. 22-32.

PART 2: LOGIC INTERLUDE.....

Notes by Josh May

- 2.1 Dowden, Brad (2011) ‘Consistency & Inconsistency’
Ch. 9 of *Logical Reasoning*, public domain/fair use.
- 2.2 Dowden, Brad (2011) ‘Claims, Issues, & Arguments’
Ch. 2 of *Logical Reasoning*, public domain/fair use.

PART 3: MINDS & MACHINES.....

Notes by Richard Hanley and Aubrey Townsend

- 3.1 Bisson, Terry (1990) ‘They’re Made Out of Meat’
First published in *OMNI*, freely available online.
- 3.2 Descartes, René (1641/1988) ‘What Am I?’ (excerpts from Meditations 2 & 6)
From *Descartes: Selected Philosophical Writings*, trans. Cottingham, Cambridge.
- 3.3 Turing, Alan (1950) ‘Computing Machinery and Intelligence’
From *Mind* Vol. 59, pp. 433-460.
- 3.4 Searle, John (1980) ‘Minds, Brains and Programs’
From *Behavioural & Brain Sciences* 3, pp. 417-424.

PART 4: THE SELF

Notes by Aubrey Townsend

- 4.1 Gibson, William (1988) ‘The Winter Market’
From his *Burning Chrome*, London, pp. 140-166.
- 4.2 Locke, John (1694) ‘On Personal Identity’
From Ch. 27 of *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, public domain.
- 4.3 Parfit, Derek (1971) ‘Personal Identity’
From *The Philosophical Review* Vol. 80, pp. 3-27.
- 4.4 Williams, Bernard (1973) ‘The Self and the Future’
From his *Problems of the Self*, Cambridge, pp. 46-63.
- 4.5 Lewis, David (1976) ‘Survival and Identity’
From *The Identities of Persons*, A. Rorty (ed.), U. of California Press, pp. 17-40.

PART 5: KNOWLEDGE

Notes by Jakob Hohwy & Josh May

- 5.1 Plato (ca. 380 BCE) ‘Allegory of the Cave’
Excerpt from *Republic*, public domain, 6 pp.
- 5.2 Gettier, Edmund (1963) ‘Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?’
From *Analysis* Vol 23, pp. 121-123.
- 5.3 Nozick, Robert (1981) ‘Knowledge and Skepticism’
Excerpts from Ch 3.1 of his *Philosophical Explanations*, pp. 167-178.
- 5.4 Descartes, René (1641/1901) ‘Of the Things of Which We May Doubt’
Meditation 1 from *Meditations on First Philosophy*, trans. J. Veitch, public domain.
- 5.5 Moore, G. E. (1962) ‘Certainty’
From his *Philosophical Papers* (New York: Collier Books, 1962), pp. 240-6.
- 5.6 Nozick, Robert (1981) ‘Nonclosure’
Excerpts from Ch 3.2 of his *Philosophical Explanations*, pp. 204-209.