Philosophy of Mind (Philosophy 418)
Fall 2013

Instructor: Brian P. McLaughlin
Time: TTH 5th period (2:50-4:10)
Office: Philosophy Department, 5th floor of 106 Somerset Street (next door to Barnes and Nobles), Room 529
Office Hours: 4th period Tuesday

Requirements: 2 papers eight pages single spaced and a final exam
Final Grade: the 2 papers and the final exam will count equally in determining your final grade.


Purpose of Course: The purpose of the course is to familiarize the student with the main issues surrounding the mind/body problem and with the major theories of mind. The issues that will be covered include substance dualism, property dualism, mental causation, intentionality, and consciousness.

Sept
3 Introduction
5 Chs. 1 and 2 of Kim’s Philosophy of Mind
10 Same as on Sept 5 and “Mental Causation” by Kim in the Oxford Handbook
12 Same as on Sept 5 and “Epiphenomenalism” by Walters in the Oxford Handbook
17 “Dualism” by Lowe, Oxford Handbook
19 Same as on Sept 17
24 Ch.3 of (Kim’s) Philosophy of Mind
26 Same as on Sept 24

Oct
1 Ch.7 of Philosophy of Mind
3 Same as on Oct 1; and “Anomalous Monism” by Yoo and “Non-reductive Materialism” by Baker in the Oxford Handbook
8 Same as on Oct 3; 1st PAPER DUE
10 Ch.5 of Philosophy of Mind
15 Same as on Oct 10;
22 Ch.6 of Philosophy of Mind
24 Same as on Oct 22; and “Functionalism” by van Gulick in the Oxford Handbook
29 Same as on Oct 24
31 Ch. 8 of Philosophy of Mind

Nov
5 Same as on Oct 22; and “Information Theoretic Semantics” by Dreske and “Biosemantics” by Millikan both in the Oxford Handbook
7 “Wide Content” by Egan and “Narrow Content” by Segal, both in the Oxford Handbook
12 Ch. 9 of Philosophy of Mind; also “Subjectivity” by Perry in the Oxford Handbook
14 Ch. 10 of Philosophy of Mind; also “The Explanatory Gap” by Levine in the Oxford Handbook
19 Ch. 4 of Philosophy of Mind
21 Same as on Nov 19
26 Can a robot be conscious?
Dec  3 Can a robot be conscious?
      5 “Pansychism” by Seager in *Oxford Handbook*; also 2nd PAPER DUE
      10 Same as on Dec 5

THE FINAL EXAM, WHICH WILL BE CUMULATIVE, WILL ON THE DATE AND
AT THE TIME SCHEDULED BY THE UNIVERSITY