Philosophy of Mind (V83. 0080) – Summer Session, 2004
Instructor: Sinan Dogramaci
Time: Monday – Thursday, 11:30am – 1pm.
Location: Tisch UC58

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Office Hours: TBA, and by appointment

Required Texts:
(2) Jaegwon Kim, Philosophy of Mind (Westview, 1998)
Both these books are available at the NYU bookstore located at 18 Washington Place.
Additional readings will be handed out throughout the course.

Grading:
Midterm Exam: 30%
Paper: 40% (your grade will be based both on a draft, and on the final product)
Final Exam: 30%

Resource Materials for Philosophy:
You should carefully read Jim Pryor’s advice on how to read a philosophy paper (http://www.princeton.edu/~jimpryor/general/reading.html), and, when the time comes, how to write a philosophy paper (http://www.princeton.edu/~jimpryor/general/writing.html). The advice on this site is extremely good and important. Very many good philosophy courses in the English speaking world advise their students to study this website. Reading and writing philosophy is very different from how it is in the other humanities.

NYU offers free internet access to several excellent online reference tools. To be able to access some of these sites from off-campus, you will need to set up an NYU internet proxy. It’s not hard to do. Instructions are available at http://library.nyu.edu/help/proxy.html. A list of online philosophy resources is available at http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/philo/resources/index.html. One of the best items is the Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy. The Stanford Encyclopedia is also quite good.
Topics and Readings
This list will have to be revised from time to time. We can focus more on what you are interested in learning about, and we will delete some topics and readings if I decide they are unnecessary. I’ll make announcements about scheduling in class.
We’ll read approximately one article per class, sometimes two. Articles not found in the Chalmers anthology are marked with an asterisk, and will be handed out in class.

Introduction
Chapter 1 of Kim

Dualism
Descartes, Meditations II and VI
(Glance at Passions of the Soul, and Smullyan, “An Unfortunate Dualist”)

Behaviorism
Ryle, “Descartes’ Myth”; Kim chapter 2 (up to p.32)
*Turing, “Computing Machinery and Intelligence
Putnam, “Brains and Behavior”; rest of Kim, chapter 2

Identity Theory
Smart, “Sensations and Brain Processes”
Kim, Chapter 3

Interlude: What is Physicalism?
*Stoljar, “Physicalism”

Functionalism
*Block, “What is Functionalism?”; Kim, Chapter 4; Putnam, “The Nature of Mental States”
Lewis, “Psychophysical and Theoretical Identifications”; Kim, Chapter 5

MIDTERM EXAM

Psychology, Physics, and Reduction
Fodor, “Special Sciences”; Kim, “Multiple Realization and the Metaphysics of Reduction”;
*Fodor, “Special Sciences, Still Autonomous After All These Years”

Criticisms of Physicalism, and the Problem of Consciousness
Block, “Troubles with Functionalism”; Searle, “Can Computers Think?”; (Optional: *Searle, “Minds, Brains, and Programs”)
Nagel, “What is it Like to be a Bat?” (Optional: McGinn, “Can We Solve the Mind-Body Problem?”)
Jackson, “Epiphenomenal Qualia”; Lewis, “What Experience Teaches”
Kripke, excerpts from Naming & Necessity
[Hill, “Imaginability, Conceivability, Possibility and the Mind-Body Problem”]
Eliminativism
Dennett, “Quining Qualia”

DRAFT OF PAPER DUE

Meaning and Representational Content
*Stalnaker, from *Inquiry*, “The Problem of Intentionality”
Fodor, “Propositional Attitudes”
Putnam, excerpt from “The Meaning of ‘Meaning’”; Kim, Chapter 8
*Fodor, “Why there still has to be a LOT”

The Naturalization of Representational Content
Dretske, “A Recipe for Thought”
*Fodor, “Meaning and the World Order” (chapter 4 of *Psychosemantics*)
[Brandom, “Reasoning and Representing”]

FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE

Concepts
*Fodor, “Having Concepts: A Brief Refutation of the 20th Century”

FINAL EXAM