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| Course code: BMA-LOTD17-106; BMA-LOTD17-106E |
| Course title: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind |
| Lecturer: Zsuzsanna Balogh  |
| Time and place: Wednesdays, 12 PM – 1.30 PM, Room 224 |

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| Pre-requisites: None |
| **Grading:**You will write an exam essay at the end of the course. You will have to answer three, previously undisclosed topics which were covered in the course. Your answer should include a description of the problem/subject and the main views we discussed. Active participation in class may improve your final grade. |
| **Requirements:** You should read the items on your reading list in preparation for class. |

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| **Syllabus:**The course aims at giving students an introduction into the subject. We will discuss the place it plays within the larger subject of philosophy and its main topics, views and lines of arguments.By the end of the course, students will be familiar with the main topics of philosophy of mind, will be able to develop a critical view of topics and understand and explain the different standpoints and decide on the basis of these which ones they agree and which ones they disagree with and why.The course will be divided into two main blocks: the first one introduces classic theories of what the mind is and how it causes bodily behaviour, while in the second one we will take a look at certain, currently heavily discussed characteristics of consciousness.This course does not discuss the specific topics at particular length but the aim is to raise the students’ interest in further exploring one or more topics.Successful completion of the course will equip you with the following skills and knowledge:* Basic knowledge of the subject of philosophy of mind as a discipline of philosophy
* Recognising and describing the different topics of philosophy of mind
* Familiarity with the main topics and the abstract concepts and theories included therein
* Understanding and reconstructing the different standpoints concerning a particular topic
* Gaining deeper interest in specific topics and preparing for exploring these
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| **Specific topics and suggested literature:****1. To have a mind**Crane, Tim (2001) – *Elements of Mind* chapter 1.**2. Theories: Substance Dualism – the mind is not physical**Descartes, René (1641) – *Meditations*, II, VI.Stanford Encyclopaedia entry: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/dualism/#SubDua> **3. Theories: Behaviourism – no need for the mind**Ryle, G. (1949). “Descartes’ myth”, in Id. The Concept of Mind. University of Chicago Press**4. Theories: Materialism – the mind is physical: Identity theory**Smart, J.J.C. (1959). “Sensations and brain processes”, The Philosophical Review, 68(2): 141-156**.**Montero, B. and David Papineau, D. (2016), ‘Naturalism and Physicalism’ in: *Blackwell Companion to Naturalism* (2016)**5. Theories: Functionalism – the mind is input and output**Putnam: “The nature of Mental States” in D. Chalmers, ed., *Philosophy of Mind: Classical and Contemporary Readings* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 73-79. **6. Mental causation – the mind causes the body to act**Crane, Tim (2003) – Mental causation<http://www.timcrane.com/uploads/2/5/2/4/25243881/ecs_mental_causation.pdf>Robb, D. and Hail, J. (2013) ‘Mental Causation’, in *Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy*, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/mental-causation/> **7. Phenomenal consciousness – the non-physical qualities of experience?**David Chalmers (1995) – Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness (excerpt) Joseph Levine (1983) – Materialism and Qualia: The Explanatory GapThomas Nagel (1974) – What Is It Like to Be a Bat**8. Intentionality – the mind represents reality**Crane, Tim (2001) - *Elements of Mind*, Ch. 1 'Mind'.Mark Sainsbury (2018) - *Thinking about Things*, Ch. 1. **9. The extended mind – the mind leaves the head**Andy Clark & David Chalmers (1998) – *The Extended Mind*Andy Clark (2008) – *Supersizing the Mind***10. The embodied mind – the mind entails the body** Shaun Gallagher & Dan Zahavi (2008) – *The Phenomenological Mind*, Ch. 7**General Literature:**Block, N. – Flanagan O. J. – Güzeldere, G. (eds.): *The Nature of Consciousness*. Cambridge MA, MIT Press, 1997. Chalmers, D. (ed.): *Philosophy of Mind. Classical and Contemporary Readings*. Oxford–New York, Oxford University Press, 2002**A good place to start exploring some of the topics:**Grayling, A. C. (ed.) (1995). *Philosophy: A Guide Through the Subject*. Oxford University Press.<http://host.uniroma3.it/progetti/kant/field/index.html> |