

Experiencing Time Syllabus

Spring 2024 - ELTE

1. Information

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2. General Aim and Course Description

We do not only perceptually experience spatial properties of moderate sized objects, but also temporal properties such as change, motion and persistence. How do we come to be perceptually aware of these? Are we directly aware of temporal properties in the world or do we infer them? Does our perceptual awareness of these properties give us knowledge about the temporal structure of the reality? Or are experiences of change and motion, along with the feeling of time passing just some sort of illusion? In this course, we will explore and discuss the recent philosophical literature that attempt to answer these, and many other relevant, questions. Even though the main focus of the course is to study the conscious perception of time, we will also assess some options concerning the relationship between our experience of temporal properties and the metaphysics of time.

3. Readings

(1) General Introduction and Historical Context (Weeks 1-2)

Le Poidevin, Robin (2008). The experience and perception of time. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

Emery, Nina, & Sullivan, Meghan, & Markosian, Ned (2020). Time. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

(2) Perceiving Temporal Properties (Weeks 3-6)

Phillips, Ian (2010). Perceiving temporal properties. *European Journal of Philosophy* 18 (2):176-202.

Soteriou, Matthew (2010) Perceiving Events. *Philosophical Explorations*, 13: 223–41.

Excerpts from “Prosser, Simon (2016) *Experiencing Time*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.”

Dainton, Barry (2013) *The Perception of Time*, *Blackwell Companion to Philosophy of Time*. Wiley.

(3) The Temporal Structure of Experience (Weeks 7-9)

Rashbrook, Oliver (2013) An appearance of succession requires a succession of appearances. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 87: 584-610.

Hoerl, Christoph (2013) 'A succession of feelings, in and of itself, is not a feeling of succession'. *Mind*, 122 (486): 373-417.

(4) Experiencing Time as Passing (Weeks 9-12)

Paul, L. A. (2010). Temporal Experience. *Journal of Philosophy* 107 (7):333-359.

Deng, Natalia (2013) On Explaining Why Time Seems to Pass. *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, 51: 367-82.

Hoerl, Christoph (2014) Do We (Seem to) Perceive Passage? *Philosophical Explorations*, 17: 188–202.

(5) Metaphysics of Time and Temporal Experience (Weeks 12-14)

Miller, Kristie, (2013) Presentism, Eternalism, and the Growing Block (pages 345–364), *Blackwell Companion to Philosophy of Time*. Wiley.

Excerpts from "Power, Sean Enda (2018). *Philosophy of Time and Perceptual Experience*. New York, USA: Routledge."

4. Grading

A 3000 to 4000 words term paper on a topic selected by the student. A grading rubric will be provided.