Module Outline:

In Search of the Self

There are broadly three dominant ways of accounting for the self. The first group are the idealists who argue that the self is never part of the world. The second group are the no-self theorists who question the existence of the self because we cannot be introspectively aware of ourselves as objects in the world. The third group are the naturalists and phenomenologists who claim that the self is not elusive because it is essentially embodied and thus part of the world.

The aim of this course is to look at these three positions and assess their merits and shortcomings.
Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module students will be able to understand:

- the metaphysical question of the relation between body and self
- the phenomenological question about the nature of our consciousness of our own body and our self
- the epistemological question of whether there is anything is special about the knowledge we have of our own bodies and knowledge about our self.

Recommended Reading List

To be posted on blackboard

Assessment:

Annual and Reassessment are the same: *

- 2 ESSAYS (25% EACH) WORTH 50% OF MODULE
- 1 (2 HOUR) EXAMINATION WORTH 50% OF MODULE

*If students are required to complete reassessment, they are required to complete each failed component of the failed module