

PIP88201 — Contemporary Idealism

Module Information	
Module Code	PIP88201
Module Title	Contemporary Idealism
Department	Philosophy
Module Personnel	Jade Hadley
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	10
Semester	1
Contact Hours	1 x 2-hour lecture weekly

Module Content	
Module Description	Idealism encompasses a range of metaphysical views which treat the mental as somehow prior to, or more fundamental than, the physical. It is common these days to hear idealism spoken of as a movement that happened in the 18th and 19th centuries, suggesting that this tradition is now over. Yet, while idealism is certainly no longer the dominant view in Western philosophy, it is by no means dead. In this course, we will look at recent contemporary arguments both in support of and against various versions of idealism. We will also consider some novel idealist positions that have been developed in the 21st century.
Module Learning Aims	This module will provide an overview of contemporary work on idealism.
Learning Outcomes	Students will become familiar with some key contemporary developments in idealism, including the recent idealist positions defended by Thomas Hofweber and Richard Gaskin.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Readings will be made available at the start of term. However, to get a sense of what we will cover, I would recommend taking a cursory look at the following: - Hofweber, Thomas (2019). 'Idealism and the Harmony of Thought and Reality'. <i>Mind</i> 128 (511): 699-734.

Module Content

	- Gaskin, Richard (2019). 'From The Unity of The Proposition to Linguistic Idealism'. <i>Synthese</i> 196 (4): 1325-1342.
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Assessment

Assessment Components	1 essay (100%)
Assessment Details	- 3,000-4,000-word essay. Students may write on a topic of their choice, but the topic must be agreed with me in advance.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	