

Philosophy of Mind | PIU33081

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22 hours
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Julian Bacharach
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Module Learning Aims:

This module will look at fundamental questions about the nature of the mind, through the lens of the question of our knowledge of it. Topics covered will be divided into the first half of term, those concerning our knowledge of other minds, and, in the second half, those concerning our knowledge of our own minds.

Module Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn to engage with a range of complex and difficult issues in philosophy of mind and to appreciate subtle interconnections between them.

Module Content:

How do we know what other people are thinking and feeling? Do other minds exist, or am I alone in the universe? Is there a special kind of access we have to our own minds which we necessarily lack to other people's? Does it even make to think there are many 'minds', of which I am just one? How can our understanding of ourselves and other people go wrong? These are the kinds of questions we will address in this module. The first half of the module will focus largely on our knowledge of other minds, and the second half on self-awareness and self-knowledge. Towards the end of the module, we will look at neighboring issues including the debate over 'theory of mind' in cognitive science, self-deception, and sexual objectification.

Assessment:

One midterm coursework essay, worth 25%, one final coursework essay, worth 50%, and a 1 hour exam, worth 25%.

Recommended Reading List:

A full syllabus and reading list will be made available at the beginning of term. Helpful introductory texts to the material covered in each half of the module are, respectively:

- Anita Avramides, *Other Minds* (Routledge, 2001)
- Lectures I and II from Sydney Shoemaker's Royce lectures, 'Self-Knowledge and "Inner Sense"', in *The First Person Perspective and Other Essays* (Cambridge, 1996)