

# Philosophy of Mind (mental processes)

**Required background:** "the intellectual and philosophical origins of psychology" or other studies in philosophy and cognition.

## Textbooks:

D. Braddon-Mitchell & F. Jackson: **Philosophy of Mind and Cognition**. Blackwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed

P. Smith & O.R. Jones. *The philosophy of Mind. An Introduction*. Cambridge Univ. Press.

Robert Kane: *The significance of free-will*. Oxford Univ. Press.

Alfred Mele: *The significance of luck*.

## Time-table:

1. 27-Feb: Introduction-I. **The mind/brain relation:** i) Dualism, ii) Epiphenomen.
2. 6-Mar: Behaviorism, Identity-theory, Eliminative materialism.
3. 13-Mar: **Functionalism** (multiple realizability), biological liberalism vs chauvinism. Supervenience, Folk psychology. Discussion on Identity and Functionalism
4. 3-Apr: **Objections to functionalism-1**; intentionality (syntax vs semantics); *The Chinese-room* (Searle); **Presentation-1**: Answers to Chinese room; Presentation-2: China brain (Bloch) and Fodor's Psychosemantics.
5. 10-Apr: Block-Head, and Objections for functionalism-2: **Consciousness** and **Phenomenological Qualities (qualia)**, Inverted Spectrum.
6. 17-Apr: Dennett' Quining Qualia, Zombies; Chalmers' dancing qualia; The Knowledge argument: **Presentations-3**
7. 24-Apr: Types of **consciousness** (Bloch) and neuroscience (Zohar)
8. 1-May: **Intentional action, mental causation**; the problem of **Free-Will**.
9. 7-May: **Free will and moral responsibility-I**: the compatibilistic theory (Ayer) addictions/phobias and reason-sensitivity (Fischer): Libertarian objections (CNC-control; ultimate responsibility)
10. 22-May: Free Will-II: the indeterminist/Libertarian theory (Kane); Objections to libertarianism: the AP-principle (Dennett; Frankfurt); the problem of luck (Mele); Hard determinism: Free will as illusion
11. **29-May: Presentations-4**: Libet's experiments; Mele-reply; Roskies.
12. June-5: **Free will-III**: Moral-luck, indoctrination; guidance control and constitutive luck (Usher, 2006).
13. June-12: Robust causation and responsibility
14. June-19: Review and Discussion.

## Additional bibliography:

**Mental representations:** <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/mental-representation/>

**Ned Bloch's website (Qualia):** <http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/philo/faculty/bloch/>

**Inverted Qualia:** <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/qualia-inverted/>

**Chalmers' dancing qualia:** <http://consc.net/papers/qualia.html>

**Chinese room:** <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/chinese-room/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese\\_Room](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_Room)

**MU website:** (papers in philosophy of mind):

<http://www.bbk.ac.uk/psyc/staff/academic/musher>

[Adina Roskies: Neuroscientific Challenges to Free Will](http://www.unc.edu/~knobe/roskies.pdf) <http://www.unc.edu/~knobe/roskies.pdf>