

# Philosophy of Mind    Fall 2025

# Course syllabus

Instructor: Kevin Kimble

Time: Tuesdays 10:10 – 1:00

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## I. Course Description and Objectives    授課內容與目標

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the most important concepts and problems in contemporary philosophy of mind. Foremost among the issues we will discuss are the mind-body problem, recent theories of mind, mental causation, mental content, and consciousness.

這堂課的目的在介紹近代心靈哲學裡最重要的概念和問題。那些最重要的議題中，我們將會討論到心物問題、新近的心智理論、意識、心理因果性，以及心理內容。

Students will be expected to attain a grasp of the key concepts, theories, and arguments pertaining to each topic. Students will also be expected to critically engage and evaluate the ideas and arguments presented, critiquing and defending various positions on the core topics.

同學被期待能夠掌握每個主題的關鍵概念、理論與論證。也期待同學能夠積極參與，並對所提出的想法與論證作出評價，以及批判與捍衛在核心主題上的各種不同立場。

## II. Course Reading    課堂閱讀

Required text: Jack Crumley, *A Brief Introduction to Philosophy of Mind*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2006.

(Prefer a more challenging text?? Then you are welcome to read Jaegwon Kim, *Philosophy of Mind*. Westview Press, 2011.)

Selections from the Crumley text will be assigned regularly, as preparation for class lecture and discussion.

定期指定 Crumley 書中的部分作為課堂教學和討論準備的範圍。

### III. Written Requirements and Grading 作業要求和評量標準

#### 1. Two “objective-style” exams in class (兩次考試)

each exam is worth 25% of course grade;

每次考試佔課堂總成績的 25%，兩次考試共佔總成績的 50%。

exam #1-- **11/04**;      exam #2-- **12/23**

#### 2. Weekly quizzes 小考

Brief quizzes (10-15 minutes) will be given in class each week, typically covering current reading material. 每週的課堂小考涵蓋該週的閱讀範圍。

All quizzes must be written on smooth clean-cut 18k paper. No exceptions.

小考務必使用平整的 18 開紙張書寫，不得例外。

Typically, instructor will allow students to consult textbook during the quiz.

教師通常會允許學生在小考時參閱課本。

A total of 10 quizzes will be given, your 8 highest quiz grades will be counted.

總共 10 次小考，取其中最高的 8 次計分

(5 points each quiz = 20% of course grade) (每次小考 5 分 = 總成績的 20%)

#### 3. Class participation/ small group discussions 課堂參與 / 小組討論

The class will form small groups, and we will use approximately 30-45 minutes of class each week to discuss questions pertaining to issues in the assigned readings. The results of each discussion will be written up and handed in, one report per group.

這堂課會將同學分成幾個小組，每週我們會用課堂中的 30-45 分鐘討論指定閱讀的相關議題中的問題。每次討論的結果要寫成報告繳交，一組交一份報告。

10 discussion reports worth 4 points each; your lowest 2 scores will not be counted; 8 次的課堂討論每次 4 分，最低的兩次分數不採計。

(8 group discussions = 30% of course grade) (8 次討論 = 總成績的 30%)

Each grade will be based on group participation as well as the written summaries.

每次的分數不只看繳交的摘要報告，也會依據小組參與的狀況。

#### IV. Other Course Policies 其他的課堂規定

- Class notes will be posted regularly on Ecourse. Students may download and print out the notes, or view them on an electronic device. 課程講義會定期發布在 Ecourse 上.
  - all assigned work (tests, quizzes, summaries) may be written in Chinese. Quizzes must be written on smooth clean-cut 18K paper. No exceptions. Written answers must be clear and in your own words. 所有指定的功課 (考試、小考、摘要報告) 都可以用中文書寫. 小考務必使用平整的 18 開紙張書寫, 不得例外.
  - Missed exams can be made up only in the event of serious illness or other emergencies. (Instructor reserves the right to decide on case by case basis.) 缺考只有在嚴重的生病或是其他的緊急狀況下可以被接受。(教師保留依個案的不同而決定的權利。)
  - Missed quizzes/ discussions typically cannot be made up. The purpose of counting 8 out of 10 quizzes and discussions is to provide you with a “safety net” for missed classes. 至於小考 / 討論缺席則是不能被接受的。10 次小考 / 討論中只考量 8 次小考 / 討論的用意就是提供同學可能缺課的一個「安全機制」.
  - Textbook policy-- each student must have access to the course text book/ readings to use during class time and small group discussions. (An electronic textbook may be used, but not during quizzes.) 關於教科書的規定-- 每位學生每次上課時都必須攜帶課本 (或該週指定閱讀的部分) 到課堂上。
- No sharing of textbook is allowed during quizzes or group discussions. Anyone who fails to have his/her own textbook (Ebook or paper copy) during group discussions will receive 0 credit for the discussion that week. 小考或討論時和別人共用課本是不被允許的; 任何忘記帶課本(或閱讀材料)的同學, 該週的小組討論將不算分.
- Food policy-- students are not permitted to eat during class. 關於飲食的規定 -- 學生在課堂上不准吃東西.
  - Instructor reserves the right to deduct points from the discussion/participation grade due to any form of class disruption. This applies to individuals, groups, and the entire class. (Points deducted for this reason are not eligible for substitution.) 教師保留因任何形式的課堂打擾而將討論/參與扣分的權利。這個規定適用於個人、小組，以及全班。(因這個理由而扣的分數無法補救。)
  - In assigning final course grades, I reserve the right to judge borderline cases on the basis of attitude, effort, and attendance. 在最後的總評分上，教師保留對邊緣個案依其態度、努力，課堂參與，以及出席而作出評斷的權利。

I strongly encourage students to ask questions and offer comments in class at any time, as well as visit me during office hours. 我非常鼓勵同學在課堂上隨時發問, 提供意見, 也歡迎同學在 office hours 的時間找我或助教.

## V. Course outline

I. Introduction and background issues (Crumley, introduction)

II. Theories of mind

A.) Dualist theories (Crumley ch. 1)

B.) Philosophical behaviorism (Ravenscroft ch. 2)

C.) Identity theory (Crumley ch. 3)

D.) Functionalism (ch. 4, 5)

E.) Instrumentalism and Eliminativism (ch. 6)

III. Central problems in philosophy of mind

A.) Mental content (ch. 8)

B.) Mental causation (ch. 9)

C.) Consciousness (ch. 10)