

Philosophy of Mind

Medvetandefilosofi

6 credits

Single subject and programme course

729G16

Valid from: 2016 Autumn semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Cognitive Science	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2007-05-07	First cycle	G1N
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
	Humanities	
Revision date	Subject group	
2016-08-25	Other Subjects within Behavioural Science	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Spring semester 2009		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för kultur och samhälle		

Course offered for

- Bachelor's Programme in Cognitive Science

Entry requirements

General entry requirements for undergraduate studies and

Social Studies, English and Mathematics corresponding to the level in Swedish upper secondary education (Samhällskunskap 1b or 1a1 and 1a2, Engelska 6, Matematik 3b or 3c)

Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should be able to

- account for the central philosophic concepts that are used in describing human mental abilities and properties,
- discuss and compare the most important theories of the soul/mind, and explain how these theories are linked to basic metaphysical and methodological views,
- account for central elements in some of the most important debates in the intersection for cognition research, neurophysiology, philosophy of mind and linguistics.

Course content

Some of the themes and questions covered in the course are:

- Methodological claims for theories, empirical adequacy, explanatory value, extensionality.
- Historical account: The theories of the relationship between body and soul of Aristotle and Descartes; The discussions about consciousness and their relevance for contemporary debates of the 17th century.
- Central concepts: meaning, representation, contents of the consciousness, intentionality, supervenience.
- Main fields within metaphysics: dualism, eliminativism, functionalism, logical behaviourism.
- Specific issues: Zombies, qualia, The Chinese Room, The Turing Test, philosophy of mind and AI.

Teaching and working methods

The teaching takes the form of lectures and compulsory seminars. The student is expected to study independently, individually or in groups.

Examination

The course is examined through oral assignments that are presented in seminars, written assignments and a written examination. The seminars are compulsory and constitute part of the examination. Active participation in the seminars is required.

If special circumstances prevail, and if it is possible with consideration of the nature of the compulsory component, the examiner may decide to replace the compulsory component with another equivalent component.

If the LiU coordinator for students with disabilities has granted a student the right to an adapted examination for a written examination in an examination hall, the student has the right to it.

If the coordinator has recommended for the student an adapted examination or alternative form of examination, the examiner may grant this if the examiner assesses that it is possible, based on consideration of the course objectives.

An examiner may also decide that an adapted examination or alternative form of examination if the examiner assessed that special circumstances prevail, and the examiner assesses that it is possible while maintaining the objectives of the course.

Students failing an exam covering either the entire course or part of the course twice are entitled to have a new examiner appointed for the reexamination.

Students who have passed an examination may not retake it in order to improve their grades.

Grades

Three-grade scale, U, G, VG

Other information

Planning and implementation of a course must take its starting point in the wording of the syllabus. The course evaluation included in each course must therefore take up the question how well the course agrees with the syllabus.

The course is conducted in such a way that there are equal opportunities with regard to sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation and age.

If special circumstances prevail, the vice-chancellor may in a special decision specify the preconditions for temporary deviations from this course syllabus, and delegate the right to take such decisions.