

## **Philosophy of Mind**

Medvetandefilosofi

6 credits

Programme course

729G16

Valid from: 2026 Autumn semester

<b>Determined by</b>	<b>Main field of study</b>	
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Cognitive Science	
<b>Date determined</b>	<b>Course level</b>	<b>Progressive specialisation</b>
2007-05-07	First cycle	G1N
<b>Revised by</b>	<b>Disciplinary domain</b>	
Chairman of the Course and Programme Syllabus Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Humanities	
<b>Revision date</b>	<b>Subject group</b>	
2016-08-25; 2025-04-24	Other Subjects within Behavioural Science	
<b>Offered first time</b>	<b>Offered for the last time</b>	
Spring semester 2009		
<b>Department</b>	<b>Replaced by</b>	
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 and English and Mathematics corresponding to the level in Swedish upper secondary education (Samhällskunskap 1b or 1a1 and 1a2 or Samhällskunskap nivå 1b or nivå 1a1 and 1a2, Engelska 6 or Engelska nivå 2 and Matematik 2a/2b/2c or Matematik B or Matematik nivå 2a or nivå 2b or nivå 2c).

## 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.

### **About teaching and examination language**

The teaching language is presented in the Overview tab for each course. The examination language relates to the teaching language as follows:

- If teaching language is “Swedish”, the course as a whole could be given in Swedish, or partly, or as a whole, in English. Examination language is Swedish, but parts of the examination can be in English.
- If teaching language is “English”, the course as a whole is taught in English. Examination language is English.
- If teaching language is “Swedish/English”, the course as a whole will be taught in English if students without prior knowledge of the Swedish language participate. Examination language is Swedish or English depending on teaching language.