Professor Elisabeth Camp  
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*Office Hours:* Wednesday 2-4 and by appointment  
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**Teaching Fellows:**  
Edward Epsen: epsen@sas.upenn.edu; sections Fridays 10 & 12  
Ryan Muldoon: ryan.muldoon@gmail.com; sections Fridays 11 & 1

All of the assigned readings are compiled in a coursepack, available at Campus Copy Center, 3907 Walnut Street. All handouts, including paper topics, will be available on the Blackboard course website.

**Course Description:**  
In this course, we will investigate the nature of the human mind from a philosophical perspective. We will do this by contrasting our mental lives with the cognitive activities of non-human animals and with the operations of computers. Do either animals or computers have beliefs, desires, and experiences? If they do, do they also have the same ethical rights and responsibilities as humans? If they don’t, does this cast any doubt on the reality of our own mental lives?

**Course Requirements:**  
- Two short papers, 4-5 pages (25% of course grade).  
- A final paper, 10-12 pages (35% of course grade).  
- Attendance and participation in lecture and section (15% of course grade).  
- Daily readings: you should do the assigned reading before class. Always bring the coursepack to class, since we’ll often be going through the text in some detail.

I will also post study questions on the course web site at the beginning of each week. These questions are not assigned, but they should help to guide you through the readings, and they’ll give you some sense for where the discussion will be heading. If you must miss either lecture or discussion, you’ll be expected to make up the absence by writing a short response (less than a page) to a question about the material we discussed that day.

Except in extreme conditions, extensions on papers must be granted well before the due date and are granted at our discretion; otherwise, late papers will be downgraded 1/3 letter grade per day.

You are expected to be familiar with and to abide by Penn’s policy on academic and intellectual integrity: http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html.

Some useful online resources for philosophy of mind and for philosophy more generally:  
Dictionary of Philosophy of Mind: http://philosophy.uwaterloo.ca/MindDict/  
David Chalmers’ bibliography of Philosophy of Mind: http://consc.net/biblio.html
Introduction
Wed 9/6    Crane: “Intentionality”
Mon 9/11   Descartes: from Discourse on the Method, 139-141.
            Locke: Essay Concerning Human Understanding, Bk. II chs. 1&2
            Hume: from Treatise on Human Understanding Bk. I Pt. III §xvi

Animal Representations and Human Thoughts
Basic Representations: How Do Minds Get to Be About The World?
Mon 9/18   Dretske: “If You Can’t Make One, You Don’t Know How It Works”;
            “The Nature of Thought”
Wed 9/20   Millikan: “Thoughts without Laws”
Mon 9/25   Fodor: “Meaning & the World Order”

Rationality and Reflection: Why We’re Not Brutish
Wed 9/27   Malcolm: “Thoughtless Brutes”
Mon 10/2   Davidson: “Rational Animals,” “The Emergence of Thought”
Mon 10/9   Shettleworth: Cognition, Evolution, and Behavior (excerpts)
            TICS exchange: Tomasello and Povinelli

First Paper Topics Handed Out

Consciousness: What Is It, and Does It Matter?
Wed 10/11  Nagel: “What is it Like to be a Bat?”
Mon 10/16  Jackson: “What Mary Didn’t Know”
            Lewis: “Mad Pain and Martian Pain” and Postscript
Wed 10/18  Harman: “The Intrinsic Quality of Experience”

First Papers due
Mon 10/23  NO CLASS
Wed 10/25  Dretske: “What Good is Consciousness?”
            Carruthers: “Natural Theories of Consciousness”
Mon 10/30  Chalmers: “Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness”
            Dawkins: “The Scientific Basis for Assessing Suffering in Animals”

Computer Operations and Human Thoughts
Thoughts and Computations: How Does the Mind Operate?
Mon 11/6   Turing: “Computing Machinery and Intelligence”
            Block: “The Mind as the Software of the Brain” §1
Wed 11/8   Fodor: “Why There Still Has to Be a Language of Thought”
            Block: “The Mind as the Software of the Brain” §§2, 3
Mon 11/13  Marr: Vision, ch. 1
Wed 11/15  Searle: “Minds, Brains, and Programs”
            Block: “The Mind as the Software of the Brain” §4

Second Paper Topics Handed Out

Mon 11/20  Dennett: “Brain Writing and Mind Reading”;
           “True Believers: The Intentional Strategy and Why It Works”

Wed 11/22  Davidson: “Mental Events”

Second Paper due


           Burge: “Individualism and the Mental” (excerpt)

Mon 12/4   Searle: “Consciousness, Intentionality, and the Background”
           Dreyfus: “The Relevance of Merleau-Ponty’s Phenomenology of Embodiment”

Wed 12/6   Clark and Chalmers: “The Extended Mind”

Final Paper Topics Handed Out

Fri 12/15  Final Papers Due