**IMPORTANT NOTE**: This class will be online and it will be asynchronous - that means you will not be expected to meet at our regularly scheduled Monday/Wednesday time. That time will instead be devoted to office hours - I will host 1 hour on Monday/Wednesday from 1pm-2pm; and Aaron, the TA, will host 1 hour on Monday/Wednesday from 2pm-3pm. For the course lectures, I will post pre-recorded lectures by no later than 1pm each Monday, and the assignments will be due by Sunday 11:59pm, starting the second week. (More information on the assignments for this class below. Read on!)

Abstract: This course is devoted to exploring the philosophical issues that emerge once we start to think about what the mind is. (One particular area that this course will pay close attention to is the nature and origin of concepts as essential components of the mind in its capacity to have knowledge of the world.)

'Mind' is a term that we are undoubtedly familiar with, but upon reflection it is unclear exactly what this term refers to or what exactly the concept encompasses (what is included in the concept of ‘mind’). For example, we might wonder whether the brain is identical with that which we refer to as the mind - is the human brain the “mind,” or can a substantial distinction be made between the two?; if they aren’t identical, then we may wonder exactly how minds fit into the physical world that brains seem to fit into (i.e., the world as it is understood by modern science). In that case, what is the natural relationship between mind and world? Mind and body? What is the nature and origin of the concepts that constitute the mind in its capacity to have knowledge of the world? Can we think without concepts? Does the word ‘mind’ simply refer to intelligent behavior? After all, it would seem that only creatures with minds can have that which we call knowledge. (Right?) How complex must organized behavior be in order for it to qualify as intelligent, and therefore “minded”? What does reflection upon other animals and computers have to teach us about the nature of the mind and the nature of consciousness as we understand it?
The aforementioned are just a few of the questions that we can consider as worthy of philosophical consideration when thinking under the rubric of “philosophy of mind”, and in my view the point is not necessarily for us to get closer to a precise answer of what the mind is, but rather for us to come to see either how much we don’t understand or to come to see how much there might be for us to reconsider in what we previously thought we were so sure of.

**Assignments:** The only assignments for this class will be weekly 1-page writing responses to prompt-driven questions that I will disburse by no later than Monday at 1pm, starting the second week, and these will be due by no later than each Sunday by 11:59pm. There will accordingly be 4 writing assignments - if you do them all with seeming effort, you will receive full credit (A) for the course. *(That is to say: in order to receive full credit, you may not miss any of the assignments, unless strenuous circumstances are communicated with me.)* If you miss one assignment without permission, you automatically move to a B; if you miss 2 assignments, you will automatically start at a C; if you miss 3, D; 4...F. *(If you ever have any questions or concerns about this, just reach out to me or Aaron!)* Though you may take the course at your own pace, I recommend you figure out a consistent schedule so as to avoid falling behind!

**Important Summer Session Remote 2020 Deadlines:**

**Session 1:**
Drop: Monday, June 29
Request for “W”: Friday, July 10

**Session 2:**
Drop: Monday, August 3
Request for “W”: Friday, August 14

**8-Week:**
Drop: Monday, July 6
Request for “W”: Friday, July 24

**10-Week:**
Drop: Monday, July 6
Request for “W”: Friday, July 24

Summer is unique. **You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment.** You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: [https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html](https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html)
For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

**DRC Remote Accommodations:**

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student’s transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

**Title IX:**

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus
resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using our online reporting link.

For more information please visit the Title IX Operations under Covid-19 page.

Lectures and readings (you will find the readings in ‘Files’ on canvas. There will be folders for each week that contain all of the required and recommended reading materials):

Week 1, Introduction: Concepts of philosophy, early Historical perspectives, and the origins of mind/body dualism
- Plato
- Hinduism
- Aristotle

Week 2, Historical perspectives 2
- Descartes (read meditations 1, 2, & 6)
- Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia
- Hume
- Kant (read introduction - pg. 22)

Week 3, Modern conceptions/20th century Behaviorism, Computationalism, Functionalism, Problems of Consciousness, Artificial intelligence, extended mind theory
- Ryle (behaviorism)
- Turing (Computation)
- Putnam (Functionalism)
- Block (consciousness)
- Churchland (artificial intelligence)
- Chalmers (extended mind)

Week 4, Spectres of Dualism: Naturalizing the mind 1 (Aaron provides lectures)
- Sellars
- Millikan

Week 5, Spectres of Dualism: Naturalizing the mind 2,
- McDowell (lectures 1-3 of mind and world)