



# PHIL3063

## Consciousness and Self

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

*Department of Philosophy*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor and lecturer

Adam Hochman

[adam.hochman@mq.edu.au](mailto:adam.hochman@mq.edu.au)

Lecturer

Samuel Jones

[samuel.jones@mq.edu.au](mailto:samuel.jones@mq.edu.au)

Lecturer

Raphaël Millière

[raphael.milliere@mq.edu.au](mailto:raphael.milliere@mq.edu.au)

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores some of the major traditions in Philosophical and Scientific thinking about Consciousness and the Self. The unit introduces core questions concerning what consciousness is: What can we know about consciousness through scientific enquiry? How can a physical system, such as the brain, be conscious? How do we situate consciousness in a social and cultural context? The unit also introduces philosophical and scientific thinking about the self and introduces questions including: Is there really such a thing as a Self? Is the self narratively constructed? What is the relationship between the self and others?

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

**ULO1:** Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources concerning

foundational concepts and arguments in cognitive science, phenomenology and philosophy.

**ULO2:** Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments in written and oral form to a variety of audiences.

**ULO3:** Analyze and critically evaluate philosophical arguments.

**ULO4:** Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical and cognitive science scholarship.

**ULO5:** Explain and critically evaluate evidence from a broad range of disciplines including cognitive science, psychology, phenomenology, analytic and continental philosophy and neuroscience.

## General Assessment Information

### Submission of Assessments

All assessment pieces are to be submitted via Turnitin portals that will be made available the unit's iLearn site. Written assessment pieces will be run through the Turnitin software system which detects unoriginal work.

### Special Consideration Extensions and Penalties

All work must be submitted on time unless an extension has been granted. Requests for extensions must be made in writing and will only be considered on serious grounds. Extensions will not be given unless good reasons and appropriate evidence (e.g., medical certificates, counsellor's letters) are presented at the earliest opportunity. Please note that work due concurrently in other subjects is NOT an exceptional circumstance and does not constitute a legitimate reason for an extension.

### Late Assessment Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of, 0 (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

### Special Consideration Policy

The University classifies a disruption warranting special consideration as serious and unavoidable if it:

- could not have reasonably been anticipated, avoided or guarded against by the student; and
- was beyond the student's control; and
- caused substantial disruption to the student's capacity for effective study and/or completion of required work; and
- occurred during an event critical study period and was at least three (3) consecutive days duration, and / or
- prevented completion of a final examination. Students with a pre-existing disability/ health condition or prolonged adverse circumstances may be eligible for ongoing assistance and support. Such support is governed by other policies and may be sought and coordinated through Campus Wellbeing and Support Services.

## How to submit a Special Consideration Notification

A Special Consideration Notification must be completed and submitted online through [www.ask.mq.edu.au](http://www.ask.mq.edu.au) within five (5) working days of the commencement of the disruption. Applying for Special Consideration: 1. Log in at ask.mq 2. Click 'Special Consideration' from the 'Submit' menu on the left 3. Fill in the required fields as prompted. Once you have completed filling out the information, please click on 'Submit'.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                                      | Weighting | Hurdle | Due                     |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------------------|
| <a href="#">Participation</a>             | 25%       | No     | Weekly                  |
| <a href="#">Short media presentations</a> | 30%       | No     | 11:55pm, Sunday 21/4/24 |
| <a href="#">Research Essay</a>            | 45%       | No     | 11:55pm, Sunday 2/6/24  |

### Participation

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 15 hours

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **25%**

Active participation in discussion and activities. Students are expected to be well-prepared, and make a constructive contribution.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources concerning foundational

concepts and arguments in cognitive science, phenomenology and philosophy.

- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments in written and oral form to a variety of audiences.

## Short media presentations

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 25 hours

Due: **11:55pm, Sunday 21/4/24**

Weighting: **30%**

Short format recorded presentations involving audio and/or visual material reflecting on questions posed by the weekly content

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources concerning foundational concepts and arguments in cognitive science, phenomenology and philosophy.
- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments in written and oral form to a variety of audiences.
- Analyze and critically evaluate philosophical arguments.
- Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical and cognitive science scholarship.
- Explain and critically evaluate evidence from a broad range of disciplines including cognitive science, psychology, phenomenology, analytic and continental philosophy and neuroscience.

## Research Essay

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **11:55pm, Sunday 2/6/24**

Weighting: **45%**

An essay based on topics from the unit

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources concerning foundational

concepts and arguments in cognitive science, phenomenology and philosophy.

- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments in written and oral form to a variety of audiences.
- Analyze and critically evaluate philosophical arguments.
- Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical and cognitive science scholarship.
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<sup>1</sup> If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

## Delivery and Resources

PHIL/PHIX3063 lectures will be delivered in-person and will be recorded (via Echo360) for 'online flexible' students. There will be in-class tutorials for 'in person scheduled' students and asynchronous online forums for 'online flexible' students. This unit uses an iLearn website (<https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/my/>). The website contains links to the reading material, lecture notes, lecture recordings, and other learning materials such as video clips, weblinks, and images. Students will therefore require access to a computer and a good internet connection in order to access all the material and participate in the unit effectively. Lectures are organised around key texts in which fundamental concepts and arguments are introduced and explained. Online flexible students will engage in these activities online via dedicated iLearn discussion forums. For tutorial times please consult the MQ Timetable website: <https://publish.mq.edu.au/>. This website will display up-to-date information on your tutorial locations.

### Lectures

PHIL/PHIX3063 lectures will be delivered in-person and will be recorded (via Echo360) for 'online flexible' students. Lectures begin Week 1.

### Tutorials

Weekly tutorial classes/online forums will begin in Week 2. Weekly discussion questions will be posted before the lectures. Students are required to respond to the discussion questions and engage each other.

## Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

PHIL3063 - Consciousness and Self will be using electronically available readings available via Leganto on the iLearn website.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.smq.edu.au\)](https://policies.smq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

## Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

### The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

## Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

## Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.



Unit information based on version 2024.04 of the [Handbook](#)