PHIL3063
Consciousness and Self
Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2023
Department of Philosophy

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### General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff  
Convenor and lecturer  
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adam.hochman@mq.edu.au

Lecturer  
Thomas Corbin  
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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
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short media presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>16/04/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly from Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>04/06/2023</td>
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Short media presentations

Assessment Type 1: Media presentation
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: 16/04/2023
Weighting: 20%

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:

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• 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.

**Participation**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 20%

Active participation in on-campus or online 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.

**Online Quizzes**

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: Weekly from Week 2
Weighting: 20%

Online Quizzes

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.

• 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 1: Essay
Indicative Time on Task: 30 hours
Due: 04/06/2023
Weighting: 40%

An essay based on topics from the course

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.

1 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.

2 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

This unit uses an iLearn website and Echo360 lecture recordings (https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/). 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. PHIL/PHIX3063 will be delivered using a combination of recorded lectures (via Echo360) and tutorial discussions (in-class tutorials for 'in person scheduled' students; Zoom meetings for 'online scheduled' students; or asynchronous online forums for 'online flexible' students). Lectures are organised around key texts in which fundamental concepts and arguments are introduced and explained. The weekly quizzes are designed to practise the various skills required in philosophical writing. They will be scaffolded to help students in the preparation for tackling assessment tasks. External students will engage in these activities online via dedicated iLearn discussion forums. For tutorial times please consult the MQ Timetable website: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au. This website will display up-to-date
information on your tutorial locations.

**Lectures**

All lectures will be recorded and made available via Echo360 Online Lecture Recordings.

**Tutorials**

Weekly tutorial classes/discussion will be conducted from week 2. Week 1 will be an Introductory session where students introduce themselves to each other and we discuss information relevant to studying this unit. Weekly Tutorial Discussion Questions will be posted before the lectures. Students are required to respond to the Tutorial Discussion Questions and engage each other in discussion responding to issues raised in these responses. N.B.: Weekly tutorials will begin in Week 2.

**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.mq.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). 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) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact 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
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/.

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.

Changes since First Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/02/2023</td>
<td>The Delivery and Resources section has been updated</td>
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