

*****Schedule and Required Readings*****

The readings are separated into *required* and *recommended* readings. You will *only ever be expected to read the required readings*, and you *should* read the required readings first before venturing into the recommended readings. However, the recommended readings are, well, recommended.

Note that readings may be subject to change. You will be notified in advance of any such changes.

Week 1, 04/01 - 04/05: Knowledge of the external world

- *Assignments:*

- Reading Task #1: Is there an external world?

- *Readings:*

- **Tues 04/02: Introductions, dreams of an external world**

- * *Required:* Syllabus
- * *Required:* Zhuangzi, Excerpts from *The Zhuangzi*, pp. 4–6
- * *Required:* Al-Ghazali, Excerpts from *Deliverance from Error*, parts I and II, pp. 2–5
- * *Required:* Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Meditations I–II, pp. 1–8
- * *Recommended:* Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Meditations III–VI
- * *Recommended:* Notes on Descartes, Parts I–III

- **Thurs 04/04: Throwing hands at external world skepticism**

- * *Required:* Chalmers, *The Matrix* as Metaphysics
 - * *Required:* Moore, *Proof of an External World*, pp. 165–170
 - * *Recommended:* Putnam, *Reasons, Truth and History*, Chapter 1: Brains in a Vat
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Week 2, 04/08 - 04/12: Knowledge of the self

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #2: Is there a self?
 - Reading task #3: Is there personal identity?
 - *Readings:*
 - **Tues 04/09: Is there a self?**
 - * *Required:* Excerpts from *The Questions of King Milinda*, Ch. 1, Dialogue 1
 - * *Required:* Olson, "There is no problem of self"
 - * *Recommended:* Burge, "Reason and the First Person"
 - * *Recommended:* Kenny, "The Self"
 - **Thurs 04/11: What is a person?**
 - * *Required:* Camus, "Absurd Walls", in *The Myth of Sisyphus*
 - * *Required:* Olson, "Personal Identity", in *The Blackwell guide to the philosophy of mind*
 - * *Recommended:* Strohminger & Nichols, "The Essential Moral Self"
 - * *Recommended:* Lewis, "Survival and Identity"
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Week 3, 04/15 - 04/19: Consciousness and Other Minds

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #4: What is consciousness?
 - Reading task #5: Are there other minds?
 - *Readings:*
 - **Tues 04/16: Bats, Mary, and Qualia**
 - * *Required:* Nagel, "What is it like to be a Bat?"
 - * *Required:* Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia"
 - * *Recommended:* Dennett, "Quining Qualia", a response to Nagel
 - * *Recommended:* Dennett, "What RoboMary knows", a response to Jackson
 - * *Recommended:* Pryor, "Jackson's Knowledge Argument", features responses to Mary.
<http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/courses/mind/notes/mary.html>
 - **Thurs 04/18: Are there other minds?**
 - * *Required:* Camus, "Absurd Walls", in *The Myth of Sisyphus*
 - * *Required:* Engel, "A Reliable Solution to the Problem of Other Minds"
 - * *Recommended:* Hyslop, "Other Minds"
 - * *Recommended:* Avramides, "Other Minds"
 - * *Recommended:* Dharmakirti, "Establishment of the Existence of Other Minds"
 - *Others:*
 - **04/19:** last day to add class!
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Week 4, 04/22 - 04/26: Could LLMs be conscious?

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #6: LLMs and consciousness
 - Essay #1: you should have a first draft of your essay ready, for the essay / peer review workshop on Thursday.
 - *Readings:*
 - **Tues 04/23: Could LLMs be conscious?**
 - * *Required:* Chalmers, "Could LLMs be conscious?"
 - * *Recommended:* Shevlin, "Consciousness, machines, and moral status"
 - **Thurs 04/25: Essay workshop, at the Hixon writing center!**
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Week 5, 04/29 - 05/03: Is there time?

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #7: Time's reality
 - Essay #1: due on **Sunday, May 3, 2359 hrs**, to be uploaded on Canvas
 - *Readings:*
 - **Tues 04/30: Is time unreal?**
 - * *Required:* John M. E. McTaggart (1908), "The Unreality of Time", *Mind*
 - * *Recommended:* Jeff Speaks, Notes on "McTaggart's Proof of the Unreality of Time": <https://www3.nd.edu/~jspeaks/courses/mcgill/370/mctaggart-time.html>
 - * *Recommended:* Smith and Oaklander (1994), Dialogue 6: The passage of time, in *Time, Change and Freedom*, pp. 60–87
 - **Thursday 05/02: The future is now?**
 - * *Required:* Hilary Putnam (1967), "Time and Physical Geometry", *The Journal of Philosophy*
 - * *Recommended:* Pieter Thyssen, "The Rietdijk–Putnam–Maxwell Argument", <https://philarchive.org/rec/THYTRA>
 - * *Recommended:* Pieter Thyssen, "Conventionality and Reality", <https://philarchive.org/rec/THYCAR>
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Week 6, 05/06 - 05/10: What's real?

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #8: The limits of realism
 - Reading task #9: Just do it?

- *Readings:*
 - **Tues 05/07: The limits of realism**
 - * *Required:* Putnam, "Realism and Reason"
 - * *Recommended:* Tim Button, Chs. 1–4, *The Limits of Realism*
 - * *Recommended:* David Lewis, "Putnam's Paradox"
 - **Thurs 05/09: Second philosophy: just do science?**
 - * *Required:* Maddy, "Second Philosophy"
 - * *Recommended:* Callender, "Philosophy of Science and Metaphysics"
 - * *Recommended:* Lakatos, "Infinite Regress and the Foundations of Mathematics" (read up to p. 10)
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Week 7, 05/13 - 05/17: What is science? Induction and laws

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #10: the problems of induction
 - Reading task #11: are laws true?
 - *Readings:*
 - **Tues 05/14: What is induction, and is it justified?**
 - * *Required:* Godfrey-Smith, *Theory and Reality*, Ch. 3: Induction and Confirmation
 - * *Recommended:* Norton, "A Little Survey of Induction"
 - **Thursday 05/16: Are the laws true?**
 - * *Required:* Cartwright, "The Truth Doesn't Explain Much"
 - * *Recommended:* Earman and Roberts, "Ceteris Paribus, There is No Problem of Provisos"
 - * *Recommended:* Lange, "Natural Laws and the Problem of Provisos"
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Week 8, 05/20 - 05/24: What is Science?!

- *Assignments:*
 - Reading task #12: Demarcating Science
 - Reading task #13: The Pessimistic Meta-Induction
- *Readings:*
 - **Tues 05/21: The Demarcation Problem**
 - * *Required:* Laudan, "The Demise of the Demarcation Problem"
 - * *Recommended:* Kitcher, "Believing Where We Cannot Prove", Ch. 2 in *Abusing Science. The Case Against Creationism*
 - * *Recommended:* Piggliuci, "The Demarcation Problem (A Belated Reply to Laudan)"

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- * *Recommended*: Lakatos, "The problem of appraising scientific theories: three approaches"
 - **Thursday 05/23: The Pessimistic Meta-Induction**
 - * *Required*: Laudan, "The Confutation of Convergent Realism"
 - * *Recommended*: Magnus & Callender, "Realist Ennui and the Base Rate Fallacy"
 - * *Recommended*: Saatsi, "On The Pessimistic Induction & Two Fallacies"
 - *Others*:
 - **05/22**: last day to drop class!
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Week 9, 05/27 - 05/31: Inductive risk, and the value-free ideal

- *Assignments*:
 - Reading task #14: Inductive Risk
 - Reading task #15: Science and Objectivity
 - *Readings*:
 - **Tues 05/28: Inductive risk**
 - * *Required*: Douglas, "Inductive Risk and Values in Science"
 - * *Recommended*: Biddle and Kukla, "The Geography of Epistemic Risk"
 - * *Recommended*: Betz, "In defense of the value-free ideal"
 - **Thursday 05/30: The objectivity of science**
 - * *Required*: Douglas, "Rejecting the Ideal of Value-Free Science" (from "III. Scientists, Responsibility, and Autonomy" onward)
 - * *Recommended*: Oreskes, *Why Trust Science?*, Ch. 1 ("T. S. Kuhn and the Emergence of Science Studies" onward)
 - * *Recommended*: Lange, "What would reasons for trusting science be?"
 - * *Recommended*: Resnik and Elliott, "Science, Values, and the New Demarcation Problem"
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Week 10, 06/03 - 06/07: Knowledge and society

- *Assignments*:
 - Reading task #16: Knowledge and power
 - Reading task #17: Objectivity and power
- *Readings*:
 - **Thurs 06/04: Knowledge and power**
 - * *Required*: Danaher, Schirato & Webb, "Questions of Knowledge" in *Understanding Foucault*

* *Required*: Foucault, "Power/Knowledge"

* *Recommended*: Haslanger, "Situated Knowledge and Situated Values"

– **Tues 06/06: Objectivity and power**

* *Required*: Haslanger, "Objectivity, Epistemic Objectification, and Oppression"

* *Recommended*: Nelson, "Epistemological Communities"

* *Recommended*: Tuana, "Feminist epistemology: the subject of knowledge"

Week 11, 06/10 - 06/14: Exam week

• *Assignments*:

– Essay #2: due on **Friday, June 14, 2359 hrs**, to be uploaded on Canvas