Debates about psyche and body, mind and world, self and others, and consciousness and nature, have generated both philosophical and psychological theories. This course will examine the philosophical questions that arise within theories of perception, affect, and cognition offered by influential psychological models. Contributions of Bergson, Husserl, Heidegger, Freud, Sartre, Merleau-Ponty, Lacan, Derrida, Piaget, and Habermas among others will be addressed. We will evaluate the role of cognitive perplexity, emotional struggle, and reflection in our lives and explore the role of expression—everyday language, literature, and art—in these questions.

What is the relationship of nature, body, experience of other minds/bodies, “the world as it is,” and consciousness?

This is a graduate seminar, which means that learning takes place within the context of class discussion as well as in the process of writing. Therefore students are expected to attend all classes and to hand in papers on time. Absences or late papers will seriously impair the quality of your grade.

**Required Packet of Readings:**

Available at Anaconda Printing, 1820 Lincoln St. (303) 534-5525

**Required Books:**


**Optional Supplementary Books:**


Course Outline

I. Introduction

1/18  Overview

1/25  Raising Questions; Creating Frameworks

   Lear, pp. ix-51.

   and the Cognitive Sciences 1: 69-77. (Forward, pp.69-70.)

II. Historical Background (late 19th & early 20th cent)—Crises, debates, controversies

(excerpt from Ch I) in Reconsidering Psychology. Duquesne U Press.

   Psychology, pp. 143-154.

   Husserl, pp. 3-18.

2/8  Husserl, pp. 191-241, 397-400.

2/15  Rest of Cairns article, pp. 71-77.

   Habermas, J. (1965/1972). “Knowledge and Human Interests: A General Perspective” in
   Knowledge and Human Interests. Beacon Press.

III. Psychoanalysis, Existentialism, Phenomenology, Genetic Epistemology—
   Responses to Debates

   A.  Freud’s Psychoanalysis

2/22  Freud, Outline, pp. vii-37, 63-78, 94-97.

   Lear, pp. 69-97. (optional supplementary reading)

   B.  Sartre’s Existentialism

   147-160, 189-254 (“Bad Faith,” “The Emotions”).

3/8  MIDTERM DUE and SYNTHESIS SESSION
C. Merleau-Ponty’s Phenomenology


3/22 SPRING BREAK


D. Piaget’s Genetic Epistemology


IV. Late 20th Century/Contemporary Responses: Philosophy of Mind; Language and Psychology


**Proposal due for final paper.**

V. Evaluation and Commentary


Lear, pp. 156-182, 183-189, 211-222
**Requirements**

**All written assignments must conform to length requirements. Use 11 or 12 pt. font and standard margins.**

1. **Weekly Response:** A (no longer than) one-page double-spaced response to the readings is required each week. Identify the central problem, issue, or question raised in the assigned article(s) or book. What position does the author or do the authors defend? What arguments are presented? AVOID comments about your thoughts, opinions, beliefs, or feelings about the text or its subject matter. This is not the place to comment on whether you think the author(s) is/are right or wrong. Save that for a longer essay in which you provide an argument and evidence for your position. Here we are interested in the author’s/authors’ points and arguments. (If something strikes you about the argument and its logic, you can include that.)

2. **Midterm:** Describe the “crisis of knowledge” that a number of thinkers such as W. James, Husserl, and Heidegger, among others confronted in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Explain how particular issues, problems, debates revealed themselves in both philosophy and psychology. Then select 2 specific concepts (1 drawn from Freud and 1 from Sartre) and show how they were attempts to reconcile controversies. How do Freud’s ideas contrast with Sartre’s? You can take a position but be sure to support it with arguments and evidence. Cite class readings as appropriate. Limit your paper to 5 pages, double-spaced. **Due 3/8.** Be prepared to discuss your midterm response during class. Your input will provide the vehicle for the synthesis scheduled for that evening.

3. **Final Paper:** Throughout the semester we explored the dialogue between “empirical psychology” and “philosophical psychology” as a productive tension. We concentrated on 20th century responses from both psychology and from philosophy. Each attempted to provide corrections for the other in order to find the most effective approaches for studying the processes of mind and behavior. We invoked many concepts including: mind, consciousness, phenomenology, free will/autonomy, corporeality, perception, intersubjectivity, science, observation, interpretation, introspection, memory, the “unconscious,” atomism, mechanism, “nature,” determinism, language, artistic expression, love, sexuality, instincts, self, world, and “the problem of other people.”

   **Formulate a question** focusing on 2 of these concepts (you can propose 1 concept of your own and choose only 1 from the list) and their relationship to 4 or more of the key figures we covered this semester. This question will comprise your proposal due on 4/19. (You will be free to hone, focus, and revise your question as you continue to structure your thoughts.) For your final paper, devise a thesis from your question (What point of view or position do you plan to defend? What is the main point or argument do you want to make? What examples and evidence will you use as support for your thesis?). Present your argument in 7-9 double spaced pages. **Due 5/3.**

Cite specific references from class materials and you may add 1 or 2 outside sources. Please paginate and do not use folders or plastic covers. A paper cover sheet is perfect.

**NOTE** The internet can be a valuable resource but proceed with caution. You must evaluate the merit of information accessed by determining the credentials and affiliations of the
author and by checking all quotes and references. (Include this information in parentheses after the web citation in your bibliography.) Use the academic style (MLA, APA, Chicago, etc.) of your choice but be correct and consistent.

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Meaning of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check+</td>
<td>Excellent; innovative; good connections among ideas; well-written; includes ideas from all readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>Very good; good; satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check (OK)</td>
<td>Acceptable for now but cursory; too brief; lacks depth; and/or poorly or not clearly written</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check-</td>
<td>Unacceptable; should be rewritten</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading of Weekly Response Papers**

Your grade for all of your assignments will be based on the following criteria:

1. Conformity to assignment as described on the syllabus
2. Organization
3. Quality and correctness of writing
4. Accuracy

**Course Policies**

- Contact professor in advance concerning absences whenever possible; no make-up work will be assigned for absences; weekly response papers are due the night of class even in the case of unavoidable excused absences.
- Snow policies: when possible, you will be contacted by phone or through Blackboard if class is being cancelled for a major snowstorm or for other significant reason. You can also call 303.556.2401 for weather closures.
- The standard of conduct essential for this class is that of professionalism with a high level of integrity. Be sure to cite any words not your own. Plagiarism means putting forth others’ work as your own; plagiarism is not tolerated in this course; the penalty for plagiarism is failing the assignment in which it occurs, with a high probability of failing the entire course.
- Classroom policies: please turn off cell phones; eating during class time is okay; discussion should be professional and courteous at all times toward all persons; confidentiality of personal information obtained during classes should be permanently maintained.
- It is your responsibility to have an official ucdenver email address. Otherwise you will not receive critical course and university correspondence.
Spring 2011 CLAS Academic Policies

The following policies pertain to all students and are strictly adhered to by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

- Every student MUST check and verify their schedule prior to the published drop/add deadlines in the student portal. Failure to verify a schedule is not sufficient reason to justify a late add or drop later in the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that their schedule is correct prior to the appropriate deadlines.

- CLAS students must use their email.ucdenver.edu email address. Email is the official method of communication for all University of Colorado Denver business. All email correspondence will take place using your UCDenver email address. Go to [http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/registrar/students/policies/Pages/EmailPolicy.aspx](http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/registrar/students/policies/Pages/EmailPolicy.aspx) to activate your email address.

- Students are NOT automatically added to a course off a wait list after wait lists are dropped. If a student is told by a faculty member that they will be added off the wait list, it is the responsibility of the student to complete the proper paperwork to add a course.

- Students are not automatically notified if they are added to a class from a wait-list. Again, it is the responsibility of the student to verify their schedule prior to any official dates to drop or add courses.

- Students must complete and submit a drop/add form to make any schedule changes. Students are not automatically dropped from a class if they never attended, stopped attending or do not make tuition payments.

- Late adds will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late add are beyond the student’s control and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Please note that the signature of a faculty member on an add form does not guarantee that a late add petition will be approved. Petitions for undergraduates are available in NC 4002 and for graduate students in NC 5012.

- Late drops will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late drop have arisen after the published drop deadlines, are beyond the student’s control, and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Pre-existing circumstances (circumstances that existed prior to the published drop deadlines) regarding illness, work, family, or other confounding issues will not be considered adequate reason to drop or withdraw from courses after the published University and/or College drop deadlines. Please note that the signature of a faculty member does not guarantee that a late drop petition will be approved. Petitions are available in NC 4002 for undergraduates and NC 5012 for graduate students.

- Undergraduate students wishing to graduate in spring of 2011 must complete the on line intent to graduate and meet with their academic advisor by census date to obtain a graduation application. This application must be completed and submitted by 5 PM on February 2, 2011. You can obtain an application ONLY after meeting with your academic advisor. There are no exceptions to this policy or date.

- Graduate students wishing to graduate in spring semester 2011 must complete their Intent to Graduate form and have a Request for Admissions to Candidacy on file with the CLAS Dean’s office no later than 5 PM, February 2, 2011.

- Students are responsible for completing financial arrangements with financial aid, family, scholarships, etc. to pay their tuition. Students will be responsible for all tuition and fees for courses they do not officially drop using proper drop/add procedures and forms. Students who drop after the published drop/add period will not be eligible for a refund of the COF hours or tuition.
Important Dates

- **January 18, 2011**: First day of Class
- **January 23, 2011**: Last day to add a class or be added to a wait list for a class using the UCDAccess student portal. After this date you must use a schedule adjustment form to change add or drop a course.
- **January 24, 2011**: LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT DROP CHARGE – THIS INCLUDES SECTION CHANGES.
- **January 24, 2011**: Wait Lists are dropped. Any student who was not added to a course automatically from the wait list by this date and time MUST complete a schedule adjustment form to be added to the class. Students are NOT automatically added to the class from the wait list after this date and time. If your name is not on the official student roster, you are not registered for the course.
- **January 25-February 2, 2011**: Students are responsible for verifying an accurate spring 2011 course schedule via the UCDAccess student portal. Students are NOT notified of their wait-list status by the university. All students must check their scheduled prior to February 2, 2011 for accuracy.
- **January 25, 2011**: First day instructor may approve request to add a student to a full course with a Schedule Adjustment Form.
- **February 2, 2011**: Census date.
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day to add structured courses without a written petition for a late add. *This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such.* This deadline does not apply to independent study, internships, project hours, thesis hours, dissertation hours, and late-starting modular courses.
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day to drop a spring 2011 course or completely with draw from all spring 2011 courses *using a schedule adjustment form* with a tuition adjustment *minus the drop charge* and no transcript notation – this includes section changes. Drops after this date will appear on your transcript. *This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such.*
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day to request pass/fail or no credit option for a course.
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day to for a graduate student to register for a Candidate for Degree.
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day for a Ph.D. student to petition for a reduction in hours.
- **February 2, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day to apply for spring 2011 graduation. You must make an appointment and see your academic advisor before this date to apply for graduation if you are an undergraduate; you must complete the intent to graduate and candidate for degree form if you are a graduate student.
- **February 14-23, 2011**: Faculty can use the early alert system.
- **March 21-27, 2011**: Spring break (no classes/campus open)
- **April 1, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day for non-CLAS students to drop or withdraw from all classes without a petition and special approval from the student’s academic Dean. *After this date, a dean’s signature is needed.*
- **April 15, 2011 at 5 PM**: Last day for CLAS students to drop or withdraw from all classes with signatures from the faculty and Dean without a full petition. *This is treated as an absolute deadline.*
- After **April 15, 2011** all schedule changes require a full petition. Petitions are available in NC 4002 for undergraduates and NC 5012 for graduate students.
- **May 9-14, 2011**: Finals Week
- *No schedule changes will be granted once finals week has started.* There are NO exceptions to this policy.