Cognition in Personal and Social Contexts

- Consciousness
  - Unconscious Mental Life
  - Hypnosis
  - Sleep, General Anesthesia
- Memory
  - Autobiographical Memory
  - Collective Memory
- Social Cognition
  - The Self

Class and Office Hours

- Class in 50 Birge 9 - 10 AM
  - Monday, Wednesday (9:10 AM)
- Office Hours in 3333 Tolman
  - Monday, 1-2 PM; Wednesday 10-11 AM
  - Before and After Class
  - By Appointment, Via E-Mail

Discussion Sections Meet in G75 Tolman

- Sara Gottlieb’s Sections
  - 102, Wednesday 1-2 PM
  - 103, Wednesday 2-3 PM
  - 106, Thursday 12-1 PM
- Adam Krause’s Sections
  - 101, Wednesday 12-1 PM
  - 104, Thursday 10-11 AM
  - 105, Thursday 11-12 Noon

Discussion Sections Meet September 3-4

Primary Text

2 Copies on Reserve in the Ed/Psych Library

Available on the Course Website

Reviews:
- The Astonishing Hypothesis
  Francis Crick & Christoph Koch
- The Remembered Present
  Gerald Edelman
- Shadows of the Mind
  Roger Penrose
- Consciousness Explained
  Daniel Dennett
- The Conscious Mind
  David Chalmers
- An Anatomy of Consciousness
  Israel Rosenfield
“Consciousness Studies”
by David Lodge

Recommended Supplements

Recommended Anthologies

Examinations
• Short-Answer, Very Short Essay
  – Multiple Choice?
• Midterm Examination
  – Wednesday, 10/22, In Class
• Final Examination
  – Thursday, 12/18, 7-10 PM
  – Noncumulative Portion
  – Cumulative Portion
• No Make-Up Exams

Discussion Sections
• Scarce Resource
  – Attendance, Participation Count
• Mini-Lecture, Demonstration
• Discussion
• Forum Postings
  – Topics Indicated on Syllabus
  – Firm Deadlines
  – Graded All-or-None

Grade Policy
• Exams
  – Midterm
  – Final
• Sections
  – Attendance, Participation
  – Forum Postings
• Total
  – 225 Points
    – =>90%, “A”
    – =>80%, “B”
    – =>51%, “C”
This Course is Webcast

For Auditors on the Web

Email Me for Access to bCourses
jfkihlstrom@berkeley.edu
(Check Inbox and Spamfolder)

Please Ask Me to Repeat Questions

Questions About Course Organization?
### The Domain of Consciousness

**Conscious Control Requires Conscious Awareness (?)**

- **Awareness**
  - Monitoring Ourselves, the Environment
  - Phenomenal Experience (Sentience)
    - Events in World
    - Contents of Minds
- **Agency**
  - Controlling Ourselves, the Environment
  - Voluntary Activity ("Free Will")
    - Mental
    - Behavioral

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### Rene Descartes

(1596-1650)

- **Methodological Doubt**
  - Without Skepticism
  - Acquire Knowledge Through Reason Alone
- "**Cogito, ergo sum**"
  - *Discourse on Method* (1637)
- "**Sum, res cogitans**"
  - *Meditations* (1641)
- **Shifted Emphasis in Philosophy**
  - From Metaphysics and Ethics To Epistemology
  - Got Us Thinking About Consciousness

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### William James

(1842-1910)

"Psychology is the science of mental life… The first fact for us, then, as psychologists, is that thinking of some sort goes on."

*Principles of Psychology* (1890)

"Psychology is the description and explanation of states of consciousness as such."

*Psychology: Briefer Course* (1892)

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### Consciousness in Psychology

**Before James**

- **Sensory Psychophysics**
  - Fechner, Helmholtz
    - Physical Properties of Stimuli
    - Psychological Properties of Experience
- **Experimental Introspection**
  - Wundt, Titchener
    - Beyond Uncontrolled Self-Observation
    - Experimental Manipulation of Stimuli
    - Quantitative Analysis of Data

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### Structuralism in Psychology

- **Wundt on Psychology and Physics**
  - "Physics is the science of experience as independent of the individual."
  - "Psychology is the science of experience as dependent on the experiencing individual."
- **"Mental Chemistry"**
  - Introspection: Analyze Conscious Mental States
  - Elementary Sensations and Feelings

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### The Behaviorist Revolution

- **Dissatisfaction with Introspection**
  - Science is Objective
    - Introspection *Necessarily* Subjective
  - Science Depends on Public Observation
    - Consciousness is *Necessarily* Private
- **Abandoning the Mental**
  - J.B. Watson, B.F. Skinner
    - Analysis of Behavior
    - Functional Relations
    - Between Stimuli, Responses
Persisting Interest in Consciousness

- Gestalt Psychology (Wertheimer, 1923)
- Hormic Psychology (McDougall, 1924)
  - “Mental life begins with a cognition,
  - continues with a conation,
  - and ends with an affection.”
- Span of Apprehension (Woodworth, 1938)
  - “Seven Plus or Minus Two”

Consciousness in Landmarks of the Cognitive Revolution

- Positive
  - Selective Attention
  - Primary Memory
    - Short-Term Memory, Working Memory
  - Mental Imagery
- Negative
  - The Computer Metaphor
  - Chomskian Psycholinguistics
  - Consciousness as “Folk Psychology”

“Conscious Shyness”
Flanagan (1992)

- Positivistic Reserve
  - Methodological Behaviorism
- Piecemeal Approach
  - Perception, Memory, Emotion
- Conscious Inessentialism
  - Computational Functionalism
- Epiphenomenalist Suspicion
  - Zombies, Conscious Automata

A Scientific Approach to Consciousness

A Public, Objective Description…
…of Private, Subjective Experience

Four Problems of Consciousness

- The Mind-Body Problem
  - Descartes’ Philosophical Legacy
- Knowledge of Minds
  - Introspection
  - Unconscious Mental Life
- Altered States of Consciousness
  - Consciousness in Animals and Machines
- Origins of Consciousness
  - Phylogenetic, Ontogenetic, Cultural Views

But First:
What is Consciousness, Anyway?

- James on “The Stream of Consciousness “
- Philosophical Analyses
  - Qualia
  - Intentionality
  - Subjectivity
- Psychophysical Analyses
  - Sensory Experience
    - Modalities of Sensation
    - Sensory Qualities
Discussion Sections Begin This Week
September 3-4