Colorado Summer Seminar in Philosophy

Mind over Matter: Dualism and Nonreductive Materialism

July 2001

Contacts

Bob Pasnau (pasnau@colorado.edu)  Philosophy Department:  167 Hellemes
   Home phone: 303-938-8803  303-492-6132
   Office phone: 303-492-4837
   Office: Hellemes 276  Faculty office hours to be announced.

Readings

Most of the readings for the seminar are collected in the packet of photocopied material, numbered 1-19. You should also get your hands on the following

A. Descartes, Meditations (any translation will do, although the best and now standard version is John Cottingham's, published by Cambridge)


Schedule [readings indicated in bold]

Week One
July 9: Cartesian dualism (Robert Pasnau)  9-12 a.m., 1505 University Ave.  -- A (Med. II, VI)
July 10-11: Supervenience (Graham Oddie): 9-12 a.m., 1505 University Ave. -- #1
July 12: Causal interaction (Michael Tooley) 2-5 p.m. Hellemes -- #2
July 13: Aristotle and functionalism (Robert Pasnau) 9-12 a.m., 1505 University Ave. -- #3-5

Week Two
July 16-17: The computational model (Carol Cleland) – 2-5 p.m. Hellemes — #11-14
July 18-20: First-person methods, phenomenal consciousness, and anti-materialist arguments
   2 – 5 p.m. Hellemes (Robert Hanna) -- ##6-10, B, C

Week Three
July 23: Problems for materialism (Michael Huemer) 2-5 p.m., Hellemes -- #15-18
July 24-25: The case for dualism (George Bealer) 2-5 p.m., Hellemes -- #19
July 26: Problems for materialism (Michael Huemer) 2-5 p.m., Hellemes
July 27: Conclusion (Robert Pasnau)

Course Work

Two 5-page papers will be required: the first on Monday July 16th, the second on Monday, July 23rd. In addition, to receive credit for the course, you must submit by August 31st a term paper, which may be an expanded and revised version of one of the two short papers.

The heart and soul of this seminar will be neither reading nor writing (the bulk of which you should do before you come and after you leave town), but rather thinking and talking about philosophy, during and between seminar meetings. We will insist that you participate actively in the seminar, and we will urge you to hang out between meetings with your fellow seminarrians, talking about philosophy, art, life, politics, whatever.