

## PHI 691: Consciousness and Intentionality

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### Course Description

Experiences—such as sensations, perceptions, and thoughts—are both conscious and intentional: there is something it feels like to have an experience, and there is a way that you represent the world as being in having an experience. The aim of this course is to explore both aspects of experiences, and especially their relations to each other.

### Requirements

**Reading:** There will be weekly reading assignments. It is crucial that you read these carefully and thoughtfully.

**Writing:** You are required to write a term paper. It should be anywhere between 5,000 and 10,000 words in length. It is due on the last day of classes. I recommend that you write smaller, explanatory-evaluate pieces on the readings throughout the semester. I am happy to read and discuss any number of these.

**Participation:** I will not lecture. This is a discussion class. I reserve the right to require presentations.

Your grade will be determined by your writing (60%) and by your participation (40%).

### Background Readings

Consciousness:

Nagel – “What Is It Like To Be a Bat?”

Jackson – “Epiphenomenal Qualia”

Block – “Concepts of Consciousness”

Alter – *A Dialogue on Consciousness*

Intentionality:

Chisholm – “Intentional Inexistence”

Fodor – “Propositional Attitudes”

Putnam – “Meaning and Reference”

Searle – *Intentionality*

Consciousness and Intentionality:

Block – “Inverted Earth”

Harman – “The Intrinsic Quality of Experience”

Tye – *Ten Problems of Consciousness*  
Horgan and Tiensen – “The Intentionality of Phenomenology and the Phenomenology of Intentionality”  
Chalmers – “The Representational Character of Experience”

### Course Readings

1. Chalmers – “Perception and the Fall from Eden”
2. Noë – “Experience Without the Head”
3. Symposium on Noë’s *Action in Perception*
4. Husserl – *The Phenomenology of Internal Time-Consciousness*
5. Gurwitsch – “Phenomenology of Thematics and of the Pure Ego: Studies of the Relation between Gestalt Theory and Phenomenology”
6. Gallagher and Zahavi – *The Phenomenological Mind*