

**Mind and Medicine**  
**(HPS XXX)**  
**Prof. E. Machery**  
**Spring 2006**

**Class Meetings**

12.00-12.50 am, Monday & Wednesday

Room: XXX

**Recitation:**

**Jonathan Livengood (**

**XXX**

**Benjamin Goldberg**

**XXX**

**Office Hours**

1017 CL

2:00-4:00 pm, Monday, or by appointment

**CourseWeb**

We will use Blackboard for course announcements and to post the lectures notes (powerpoint slides). The slides will usually be posted on BB before the class. *Please make sure to check the site on a regular basis.*

**Texts**

*Mandatory*

Pinker, S., 1997, *How the Mind Works*, Norton.\*

Baron-Cohen, S. (ed.), 1997, *The Maladapted Mind*, Psychology Press.\*

*Highly Recommended*

Nesse, R.M. & Williams, G.C., 1994, *Why we Get Sick*, Vintage.\*

*Recommended*

McGuire, M. & Troisi, A., 1998, *Darwinian Psychiatry*, Oxford University Press.\*

Other readings will be available either on line (see links in the course schedule) or in the electronic reserve (ER).

\* These books should have been ordered by the Campus Bookstore and should be available for purchase there.

## Assessment

Your grade will be based on your participation in the recitations, your 2 short assignments, the mid-term exam and the final exam.

In determining your final grade, work will be weighed as follows:

<i>Participation</i>	13%
<i>Assignment 1</i>	14%
<i>Assignment 2</i>	15%
<i>Midterm exam</i>	25%
<i>Final exam</i>	33%

Grading scale for the final grade:

97.0 – 100 A+	73.0 – 76.9 C+
92.0 – 96.9 A	69.0 – 72.9 C
89.0 – 91.9 A–	65.0 – 68.9 C–
85.0 – 88.9 B+	61.0 – 64.9 D+
81.0 – 84.9 B	56.0 – 60.9 D
77.0 – 80.9 B–	50.0 – 55.9 D–
	Below 49.9 F

If you have any question concerning your grades (assignments, exams), please, contact first your TA, Jonathan Livengood ([jml47@pitt.edu](mailto:jml47@pitt.edu)) or Benjamin Goldberg ([beg9@pitt.edu](mailto:beg9@pitt.edu)).

## Lecture

The class will mostly be a lecture, based on the readings. You should read carefully the assigned readings. You are invited to ask any question you want during the lecture.

Attendance is mandatory.

## Recitation Participation

Everyone is expected to take part in the discussion during recitation. You should have read carefully the assigned readings. You are advised to take notes on the readings, singling out the main propositions as well as the arguments for these propositions. You should also write down the questions you may have, since even after a second reading, you may not entirely understand the readings. Participation in class discussions enables you to gain a better appreciation of the material, a better understanding of the problems and solutions, and more confidence in your abilities as a scholar and communicator.

Your participation grade will be based on your participation during recitation. Attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be checked.

## Assignments

You are expected to write 2 short, 3-4 pages (typed), assignments (**02/15** and **04/03**).

Topics will be given during the term.

No late assignment will be accepted. Assignments have to be sent via Blackboard.

## **Midterm Exam**

The midterm exam will be held on **03/01** in the regular lecture room during the regular lecture period.

This exam will consist of a small number of questions based on the lectures and the readings. No notes or texts will be permitted. I will provide you with a list of possible questions about two weeks before the exam. If you are unable to attend the midterm exam, you need to offer evidence for extreme circumstances (such as a note by your physician).

## **Final Exam**

The final exam will be held during the Examination Period.

The final exam will consist of a small number of questions based on the lectures and the readings. Two-thirds of the questions will be about the second half of the class; one-third of them will survey the first part of the course. As with the midterm, no notes or texts will be permitted, but I will provide you with a list of possible questions.

## **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory and will be checked at the beginning of each class. Unexcused non-attendance of 4 classes (lecture *and* recitation) will strongly reduce your participation grade.

## **Academic integrity**

Cheating and plagiarism will **NOT** be tolerated. (The university's policy on academic integrity can be found at <http://www.fcas.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html>).

## **Special needs**

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890 or 412-383-7355 (TTY) as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**  
(Subject to revision as the semester proceeds)

**Wednesday 01/04**

*Topic:* Syllabus

**Monday 01/09**

*Topic:* Introduction

**Wednesday 01/11**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Theory: The Adaptationist Approach

*Readings:* Chap. 2 of Nesse and Williams (ER).

**Monday 01/ 16 Martin Luther King's Day No Class**

**Tuesday 01/17 Add/drop period ends**

**Wednesday 01/18**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Theory: The Adaptationist Approach

*Readings:* Gould, S.J. & Lewontin, R.C., 1979, [The Spandrels of San Marco and the Panglossian Paradigm: A Critique of the Adaptationist Programme.](#)

**Monday 01/23**

*Topic:* Misuse of Biology

*Readings:* Chap. 4 of Gould, S.J., *The Mismeasure of Man* (ER).

**Wednesday 01/25**

*Topic:* The Naturalistic Fallacy

*Readings:* Wilson, D.S., Dietrich, E., & Clark, A.B., 2002, On the inappropriate use of the naturalistic fallacy in evolutionary psychology, *Biology and Philosophy*, 18(5): 669-681 (ER).

**Monday 01/30**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Psychology: Introduction 1

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 1.

**Wednesday 02/01**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Psychology: Introduction 2

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 1.

**Monday 02/06**

*Topic:* Cognitive Science, the Mind, and Consciousness 1

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 2, beginning-p. 131.

**Wednesday 02/08**

*Topic:* *Cognitive Science, the Mind and Consciousness 2*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 2, p. 131-end

**Monday 02/13**

*Topic:* *Evolution of a Cognitive Animal—Humans*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 3

**Wednesday 02/15**

*Topic:* *Evolution of a Cognitive Animal—Humans*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 3

**Deadline for the first assignment.**

**Monday 02/20**

*Topic:* *Vision*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 4.

**Wednesday 02/22**

*Topic:* *Evolution and reasoning 1*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 5

**Monday 02/27**

*Topic:* Preparation for the mid-term exam.

**Wednesday 03/01**

**MID-TERM EXAM**

**March 5-12 Spring break**

**Monday 03/13**

*Topic:* *Evolution and reasoning 2*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 5

**Wednesday 03/15**

*Topic:* *Evolution and emotions*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 6

**March 15 Deadline for monitored withdrawal**

**Monday 03/20**

*Topic:* *Evolution, love, family*

*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 7, beginning-p.493

**Wednesday 03/22**

*Topic:* Evolution, Allies, Friends  
*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 7, p. 493-end

**Monday 03/27**

*Topic:* Evolution, Arts, Humor  
*Readings:* Pinker 1997, Chapter 8

**Wednesday 03/29**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Theory and Psychiatry 1  
*Readings:* Nesse and Williams, Chap. 1 of Baron-Cohen.

**Monday 04/03**

*Topic:* Evolutionary Theory and Psychiatry 2  
*Readings:* McGuire et al., Chap. 2 of Baron-Cohen.

**Deadline for the second assignment.**

**Wednesday 04/05**

*Topic:* Anxiety  
*Readings:* Marks and Nesse, Chap. 4 of Baron-Cohen.  
Nesse, Chap. 5 of Baron-Cohen.

**Monday 04/10**

*Topic:* Depression  
*Readings:* Price et al., Chap. 11 of Baron-Cohen.

**Wednesday 04/12**

*Topic:* Sociopathy 1  
*Readings:* Blair, Chap. 6 of Baron-Cohen.

**Monday 04/17**

*Topic:* Sociopathy 2  
*Readings:* Mealey, Chap. 8 of Baron-Cohen.

**Wednesday 04/19**

*Topic:* Preparation for the final exam