

PSYD80S: Current Topics in Theoretical Psychology
Spring, 1996
Instructor: A. Kukla (S-572)

You should purchase Fodor's Modularity of mind at the bookstore. Other readings are on 3-hour reserve. Grades will be based on 2 essay tests: a midterm, worth 40% of the final grade, and a final exam worth 60% of the final grade.

Week 1. Introductory.

Weeks 2-3. Foundations of cognitive science.

Fodor, J. A. Representations. MIT Press, 1981, pp. 1-31.

Weeks 4-5. The nature of representations

Fodor, J. A. Fodor's guide to mental representations. Mind, 94, 1985, 76-100.

Week 6. Midterm exam (40% of grade)

Weeks 7-8. The innateness of universal grammar

Chomsky, N. Recent contributions to the theory of innate ideas. In H. Morick (Ed.), Challenges to empiricism. Hackett: 1980, pp. 230-239.

Putnam, H. The innateness hypothesis and explanatory models in linguistics. In Morick, pp. 240-250.

Chomsky, N. Reply to Putnam. In N. Block (Ed.), Readings in the philosophy of psychology, Vol. 2. Harvard, 1981, pp. 300-304.

Chomsky, N. (1980). Rules and representations. Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 3, 1980, 1-15.

Goodman, N. Fact, fiction, and forecast. Harvard, 1983. Pp. 59-83.

Piattelli-Palmarini, M. (Ed.), Language and learning: The Debate between Jean Piaget and Noam Chomsky. Harvard, 1980. Pp. 255-275, 287-340.

Week 9. The innateness of concepts

Fodor, J. A. Representations. MIT Press, 1981, pp. 257-316.

Week 10. The modularity of mind

Fodor, J. A. Modularity of mind. MIT Press, 1983. Pp. 1-101

Week 11. Inductive reasoning

Fodor, J. A. Modularity of mind. MIT Press, 1983. Pp. 101-129.

Kukla, A. (1992). Endogenous constraints on inductive reasoning. Philosophical Psychology, 5, 411-425.

Goodman, N. Fact, fiction, and forecast. Harvard, 1983. Pp. 84-99.

Week 12. Consciousness.

Nagel, T. What is it like to be a bat? In N. Block (Ed.), Readings in the philosophy of psychology, Vol. 1. Harvard, 1980, pp. 159-168.

Jackson, F. Epiphenomenal qualia. Philosophical Quarterly, 32, 1982, pp. 127-136.

McGinn, C. Can we solve the mind-body problem? Mind, 98, pp. 349-366.

Dennett, D. Consciousness explained. Little, Brown and Company, 1991, pp 21-42.

Week 13. TBA

Final exam (60% of grade)