

PHILOSOPHY 342

PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

SPRING SEMESTER

LECTURE 1

Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind

What is the Philosophy of Mind?

The philosophy of mind is the study of the nature of the mind, its relationship to the body, and the nature of consciousness. It is a branch of philosophy that seeks to understand the mind as a distinct entity from the physical world.

The Mind-Body Problem

The mind-body problem is the central issue in the philosophy of mind. It asks whether the mind is a non-physical substance that interacts with the physical body, or if it is simply a product of physical processes.

There are two main positions: dualism, which holds that the mind and body are distinct substances, and physicalism, which holds that the mind is entirely composed of physical matter.

Dualism is the view that the mind is a non-physical substance that interacts with the physical body.

Physicalism is the view that the mind is entirely composed of physical matter.

