MIND II: Mechanisms of Mind
Explaining Mind and Behavior at Different Levels of Description

Course Overview
This quarter of Mind will focus on the causes of behavior – what are the underlying mechanisms that give rise to the vast array of behaviors exhibited by human and nonhuman animals? We will consider the importance of examining multiple levels of analysis (biological, psychological, and social) in order to explain behavior and understand how it manifests. A primary goal is to gain insight into how to integrate across multiple levels of analysis to build a more complete model of Mind.

Course Schedule (all remote)
Lecture: Recorded lectures will be posted to Canvas by 2 PM the Friday prior to discussion.
Discussion: Each section will meet remotely via Zoom on Thursdays for a LIVE discussion. All sections will meet at 11:20 AM-12:40 PM except section 12 and 13 (see times below). Please see instructions from your instructor for Zoom link to log into your discussion session.

Section 1: Sarah London, london@uchicago.edu
   Intern: Mia Velazquez, miavelazquez@uchicago.edu

Section 2: Marc Berman, bermanm@uchicago.edu
   Intern: Andrew Savoy, savoy@uchicago.edu

Section 3: Greg Norman, gnorman@uchicago.edu

Section 4: Alex Shaw, ashaw1@uchicago.edu
   Intern: Letitia Ho, letitiayhbo@uchicago.edu

Section 5: Anne Henly, henly@uchicago.edu

Section 6: Kerry Ledoux, kledoux@uchicago.edu

Section 7: Kate O’Doherty, kodoherty@uchicago.edu

Section 8: Howard Nusbaum, hcnusbaum@uchicago.edu

Section 9: Ashley Drake, adrake@uchicago.edu

Section 10: Kim Meidenbauer, meidenbauer@uchicago.edu

Section 11: Carlos Cardenas-Iniguez, cardenas@uchicago.edu

Section 12: Wilma Bainbridge, wilma@uchicago.edu
   MEETS Thursday 9:40-11:00 AM
   Intern: Gaby Akcelik, robogaby@uchicago.edu

Section 13: Anne Henly, henly@uchicago.edu
   MEETS Thursday 4:20-5:40 PM
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Lecture, Readings and Discussions. You are required to remotely attend and actively participate in weekly discussions. In order to get the most out of the readings and discussion it is essential that you view the lecture and complete ALL the assigned readings prior to discussion. The readings come from a wide variety of primary source materials rather than a textbook. Thus, lectures are necessary to provide a coherent framework in which to understand the readings and situate them within the broader context of issues we address. The reading load is relatively light, giving you time to reflect on the week’s material in preparation for writing the weekly paper.

2. Weekly Discussion Papers. Each week students should submit a short discussion paper (not to exceed 300 words) based on the lecture and readings. The purpose of the paper is to stimulate careful consideration of the week’s topic in a manner that is informed by the readings and lecture. Papers should raise issues or questions that are central to the material presented that week and that can serve as the basis for our weekly discussions. Your paper can take any number of different approaches to the material—you may contrast various readings’ perspectives on an issue, question an author’s basic assumptions, raise questions about the implications of an empirical finding for a particular theory, extend a theoretical argument to a different set of issues, etc. Although this allows you to focus on a broad range of potential topics, your paper must represent a well-reasoned and coherent presentation of your argument. Section leaders will confirm due date & time as well as any additional paper specifications for their sections.

3. Research participation. You are required to participate in studies that fulfill 2 hours of course credit or to complete an alternative assignment. You will need to register online with Sona (https://uchicago.sona-systems.com) which lists studies that are currently seeking participants and allows you to sign up to participate for course credit. We have added this requirement because one of the best ways to understand behavioral research is through the firsthand experience of participating in a study. DO NOT POSTPONE registering with Sona and participating; you may not be able to find an appropriate study if you wait until the last few weeks of class. Alternatively, if you prefer not to be a research participant, you may fulfill this requirement by writing 2 brief papers (each approximately 1 page) summarizing the hypotheses, methods, and findings of an original research article published in a journal that reports psychological science (you must contact your instructor for article assignment). Each paper is worth one credit hour of research participation.

4. Final Paper. Instructions for a short, final paper (5 pg.) will be handed out before the final class. The final will require that you integrate material presented in the lectures and readings across the quarter. Papers are due Tuesday, March 16 by noon.

5. Course Grade. Your grade will be based on your weekly discussion papers (40%), contribution to class discussion and lecture (30%), the final paper (30%). An additional requirement for a passing grade is completion of the research participation requirement or alternative assignment.

6. Getting the Readings. All readings for the course are available on our Canvas website.
Mind I: Lectures and Reading List

Jan. 8

**Lecture 1: Explanatory Models of Mind** (Nusbaum)

Jan. 14

Discussion


Jan. 15

**Lecture 2: Gene x Environment and Behavior** (London)

Jan. 21

Discussion


Jan. 22

**Lecture 3: Neural Models of Information Representation** (Berman)

Jan. 28

Discussion


*Suggested further reading*


Jan. 29

**Lecture 4: Perceiving Faces, Places, and Things** (Bainbridge)

Feb. 4

Discussion


Feb. 5

**Lecture 5: Speech Perception** (Nusbaum)
Feb. 11  Discussion

Feb. 12  **Lecture 6: Reading: From Print to Meaning** (Ledoux)
Feb. 18  Discussion

Feb. 19  **Lecture 7: Developing Fairness** (Shaw)
Feb. 25  Discussion

Feb. 26  **Lecture 8: Explaining Stress** (Norman)
Mar. 4  Discussion

Mar. 5  **Lecture 9: Social Stratification: Socioeconomic Status, Race, and Ethnicity** (Cardenas-Iniguez)
Mar. 11  Discussion