

Philosophers of mind have spent a great deal of time thinking about perception, consciousness, and desire. But a major part of our mental life is comprised by emotions: by joy, anger, fear, pleasure. This lecture series looks at some major approaches to emotions. Our guiding question is: What is the nature of emotions? Are they judgments? Feelings? Perceptions? How do they straddle the natural/social distinction?

Introductory Reading: Goldie, Peter. "Emotion." *Philosophy Compass* 2.6 (2007): 928-938.
Griffiths, Paul (1997) 'Philosophy and Emotion, the poverty of conceptual analysis' in *What Emotions Really Are*

Week 1: Non-Cognitive Feeling Theories

Essential Reading:

Prinz, Jesse (2005) 'Are Emotions Feelings?' *Journal of Consciousness Studies*

Further Reading:

Prinz, Jesse J. *Gut reactions: A perceptual theory of emotion*. Oxford University Press, 2004.

Week 2: Cognitive Theories

Essential Reading: Nussbaum, Martha C. *Upheavals of thought: The intelligence of emotions*. Cambridge University Press, 2003. (chapter 1)

Further Reading:

Solomon, Robert (2003) 'Thoughts and Feelings: What is a 'Cognitive Theory' of emotion and does it neglect affectivity?' *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement*

Week 3: Emotions as Perceptions

Essential Readings:

Döring, S. A. (2007). Seeing what to do: Affective perception and rational motivation. *Dialectica: International Journal of Philosophy of Knowledge*, 61, 363–394

Roberts, Robert C. (1998) 'What an Emotion is: A Sketch' *Philosophical Review*

Further Readings:

Brady, Michael S. "The irrationality of recalcitrant emotions." *Philosophical Studies* 145.3 (2009): 413-430.

Week 4: Are Emotions Natural Kinds? Are they Socially Constructed?

Essential Reading:

Griffiths, Paul E. (2004) 'Is Emotion a Natural Kind?' In *Thinking About Feeling*

Robinson, Jenefer M. (2004) 'Emotion: Biological Fact or Social Construction' in *Thinking About Feeling*

Further Readings:

Shea, Nicholas (2013) 'Distinguishing Top-Down From Bottom-Up Effects' in *Perception and its Modalities*

Ekman, Paul, and Daniel Cordaro (2011) 'What Is Meant by Calling Emotions Basic' *Emotion Review*