

## **Philosophy of Mind: Midterm Study Guide**

We have studied various theories of mind. In particular we have studied:

**Dualism**

**Behaviorism**

**(Type) Identity Theory**

**Functionalism**

Your job, in a nutshell, is simply to understand these theories. Understanding these theories means that you can explain what the theory says in everyday terms, you understand the strengths and weaknesses of each that have been presented by way of various arguments pro and con, and you can respond to novel questions which compare them or in some other way rely on an understanding of them.

Ryle gave various arguments against Dualism. Putnam (“Brains and Behavior”) gave arguments against Behaviorism. Putnam (“The Nature of Mental States”) briefly gave a ‘multiple realizability’ argument against Identity Theory (which I have also presented in class). Block has given arguments against Functionalism. Of course, each philosopher espousing a theory (Descartes, Hempel, Smart, and Putnam) also gave arguments in favor of that theory. You should understand all of these arguments.