

## Philosophy 132

### The Philosophy of Mind

Final Paper Questions

Distributed 19 November 2007

ESSAYS DUE: *Monday 3 December 2007*

You should use one of the following questions to write a five-paged double-spaced essay. Reminder: my office hours are *Mondays 2.30-4pm Moses 230*.

1. 'To feel pain is to perceive your body to be some way.' Evaluate this claim: explain what reasons there are for endorsing this claim and assess any reasons for supposing it false.
2. 'A mental state is functionally definable in terms of its causal relations to inputs, outputs and other mental states.' How would a functionalist explain that it is possible for a dolphin, a Klingon and a human being all to want to watch the *Tyra Banks Show*?
3. 'If it is a genuine possibility that a creature *functionally* identical to me could lack any sensation at all when I feel pain, then it is a genuine possibility that a creature *physically* identical to me could lack any sensation at all when I feel pain.' Discuss.
4. Is there any good reason for thinking that one could possess the concept *pain* only if one could know whether other people are in pain?