



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 601 – Seminar in Selected Problems  
Lec 01, Topic 05 – “Perceptual Reference”**

**Winter Term 2010**

**Course Outline**

**Instructor:** Ali Kazmi  
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**Office Hours:** T and R, 1145-1230

**Instructor:** Mohan Matthen  
**Office:** SS 1238  
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**Office Hours:**

**Course Description:**

Philosophers have attributed propositional content to perceptual states. This enables them to use the resources of philosophical logic to help understand the informational nature of these states. The question to be addressed in this seminar is whether the logic of demonstratives has utility in this project. On the face of it, demonstratives do help because these are devices by which environmental objects can be made to figure in perceptual content (as opposed to descriptions of these objects). This seminar is divided into two parts. In the first part, Ali Kazmi will lead discussion of the work of David Kaplan on demonstratives. In the second part of the seminar, Mohan Matthen will discuss the application of this work and the work of Gareth Evans, John Perry, and other philosophers to issues of perceptual reference.

**Text:**

The instructors will provide information on a number of suggested readings.

**Evaluation:**

A take-home assignment weighted 35% of the final mark will be due in class on Tuesday, February 23, and a final term paper of approximately 4000 words in length weighted 65% of the final mark will be due in class on Thursday, April 15. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final examination. Late submissions will not be accepted under normal circumstances. The following table will be used to calculate letter grades from the final marks.

0-45% F	56-60% C-	71-75% B-	86-90% A-
45-50% D	61-65% C	76-80% B	91-95% A
51-55% D+	66-77% C+	81-85% B+	96-100% A+