Antiphysicalism
Advanced BA course
Eötvös Loránd University, fall 2018/19
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Physicalism (also known as materialism) is the view that everything that exists is material or physical. Physicalists often assume, in addition, that every phenomenon in the world can (in principle) be explained on the basis of natural science. Antiphysicalism or antimaterialism is the negation of this view. The course provides an overview of contemporary antiphysicalist arguments, covering topics in the philosophy of mind, moral philosophy, metaphysics, and the philosophy of biology.

Requirements: attendance (80% of classes), in-class presentation (40 minutes).

Weekly schedule:

1 Introduction
2 From material composition to dualism
   Howard Robinson: “Are there any Fs?”
3 Platonism
   James Robert Brown: *Philosophy of Mathematics* (2nd ed.), ch.2
4 Phenomenal consciousness
   Howard Robinson: *From the Knowledge Argument to Mental Substance*, ch.1.
5 Free will
6 Meaning
   Barry Loewer: Naturalizing semantics
7 Morality
   J.L. Mackie: *Ethics* I.9
8 The ideality of matter
   Howard Robinson: *Matter and Sense*, ch.7.
9 The ideality of space
   Barry Dainton: *Time and Space*, ch.15.
10 Interlude: Buddhist idealism
   Mark Siderits: *Buddhism as Philosophy*, ch.8.
11 The cosmological argument
12 On evolutionary theory I: Cognition
   Alvin Plantinga: The evolutionary argument against naturalism. In Beilby (ed): 
   *Naturalism Defeated?*, 1–14.

13 On evolutionary theory II: The myth of selection mechanisms