Philosophy of Psychology

Visual Cognition & Visual Awareness

BASIC READINGS

Introductory Text books:

Some Background Philosophy of Mind & Perception
Robert Schwarz, ed., Perception, Basil Blackwell
Jonathan Dancy, ed., Perceptual Knowledge, OUP
David Chalmers, The Conscious Mind, Oxford University Press, Ch. 1

Further Relevant Philosophical Discussions
Daniel Dennett, Consciousness Explained, part. Chs. 5, 6, 11
Michael Tye, The Imagery Debate, MIT Press, part. Ch.1
— Ten Problems of Consciousness, MIT Press
Kathleen Akins, ed., Perception, Oxford University Press
John Campbell, Reference & Consciousness, Clarendon Press
Austen Clark, A Theory of Sentience, Clarendon Press

Week One: Perception, Vision & Consciousness
Tim Crane, Introduction to The Contents of Experience, Cambridge University Press
D.M. Armstrong, A Materialist Theory of The Mind, ch. 10, reprinted in Dancy, Perceptual Knowledge
Kathleen Akins, ed., Perception, Oxford University Press, introduction

Week Two: Psychological Function, Inference and Modularity
Jerry Fodor, The Modularity of Mind, MIT Press
Irvin Rock, Indirect Perception, MIT Press, Ch.1
Also chapter in Schwarz
Tim Shallice, From Neuropsychology to Mental Structure, Cambridge University Press, Ch. I

Week Three: Marr’s Approach & Extensions
David Marr, Vision, Freeman, esp. Ch. 1
(For introductory summaries of Marr look at Sterelny, The Representational Theory of Mind and Tye,
The Imagery Debate, Ch. 1 for philosophers take on these matters and A.L. Yuille and S. Ullman, ‘Computational Theories of Low-level Vision’, in D. Osherson, S. Kosslyn & J. Hollerbach, Visual Cognition & Action, MIT Press for psychologists’ account which starts with Marr and mentions some more recent work)
Zenon Pylyshyn, Seeing & Visualizing, MIT Press, Ch. 1
Weeks Four and Five: Dissociations of Vision & Action
M.A. Goodale, 'The Cortical Organization of Visual Perception and Visuomotor Control'
David Milner & Melvyn A. Goodale, The Visual Brain in Action, Oxford University Press
(see also précis of this reprinted in Noë and Thompson)
Marc Jeannerod, The Cognitive Neuroscience of Action, Blackwell, Ch. 2

Further Reading on Visual Cognition
Tim Shallice, From Neuropsychology to Mental Structure, Cambridge University Press
Stephen Palmer, Vision: From Photons to Phenomenology, MIT Press
F. Egan, 'Individualism, Computation & Perceptual Content', Mind 1992
Stephen M. Kosslyn, Image & Brain, MIT Press
Shimon Ullman, High Level Vision, MIT Press
Marc Jeannerod, The Cognitive Neuroscience of Action, Blackwell, part. Ch. 2
Harold Pashler, 'Attention and Visual Perception', in Kosslyn & Osherson
Elizabeth Spelke et al., 'The Development of Object Perception', in Kosslyn & Osherson
Charles Spence & Jon Driver, Crossmodal Space and Crossmodal Attention, OUP, Chs. 8 & 11
J.J. Gibson, The Senses Considered as Perceptual Systems, Unwin
J.J. Gibson, An Ecological Approach to Visual Perception, LEA

Reading on Two Visual Pathologies
Blinkight
Larry Weiskrantz, 'Some contributions of neuro-psychology of vision and memory to the problems of consciousness', in A. Marcel & E Bisiach, edd., Consciousness in Contemporary Science, Oxford University Press
Larry Weiskrantz, Blindsight, Oxford University Press

Unilateral Visual Neglect
Eduardo Bisiach, 'Extinction and Neglect: Same or Different?', in Jacques Paillard, ed., Brain & Space, Oxford University Press
Bill Brewer, 'Unilateral Neglect and the Objectivity of Spatial Representation', Mind & Language, 1992

Inattentinal Blindness & Change Blindness
Daniel Dennett, Consciousness Explained, 6
Fred Dretske, 'Change Blindness', Philosophical Studies, July 2004
Arien Mack & Irvin Rock, Inattentinal Blindness, MIT Press
(Brief overview provided at Current Directions in Psychological Science Volume 12 Issue 5 Page 180 - October 2003.)
Jon Driver, Greg Davis, Charlotte Russell, Massimo Turatto and Elliot Freeman 'Segmentation, attention and phenomenal visual objects' Cognition, Volume 80, Issues 1-2, June 2001, Pages 61-95

Website for demonstrations of inattentinal blindness:
http://viscog.beckman.uiuc.edu/djs_lab/demos.html