

Seminar “Reading Levy’s *Neuroethics*”  
Session 1 (13:00-14:00, October 12, 2007)  
Reported by Kei Yoshida

In this seminar, we shall read Neil Levy’s book, *Neuroethics: Challenges for the 21st century* (Cambridge University Press, 2007). This book was recently published, and it is one of the first monographs in the field. Prof. Nobuhara, the course director, briefly explained what is neuroethics. According to him, by “neuroethics” we can mean at least two things. One is the ethics of neuroscience, and the other is the neuroscience of ethics. The former is to study whether some neuroscientific study is ethical. The latter is to investigate what neuroscience can tell us our ethics. Neuroscientists are usually interested in the second version of neuroethics (e.g. neuroeconomics). But these two versions of neuroethics affect each other. In this sense, their relation is recursive.

Then Prof. Nobuhara explained that this course is part of the UTCP education program. Our project as the UTCP education program is to post seminar reports, a bibliography of neuroethics, and reviews of books and articles. Prof. Nobuhara encouraged students to participate in the project. On this website, you will see the development of our project.

Now, our current plan in the seminar is to read Levy’s book in the following weeks. The distribution is as follows:

Week 1. From the beginning of Chapter 1 to the section “Peering into the mind” (pp. 1-29)

Week 2. From the section “The extended mind” to the end of Chapter 1 (pp. 29-68)

Week 3. Chapter 2 (pp. 69-87)

Week 4. From the beginning of Chapter 3 to the section “Probing the distinction” (pp. 88-103)

Week 5. From the section “Assessing the criticisms” to the end of Chapter 3 (pp. 103-132)

Week 6. Chapter 4 (pp. 133-156)

Week 7. Chapter 5 (pp. 157-196)

Week 8. Chapter 6 (pp. 197-221)

Week 9. Chapter 7 (pp. 222-257)

Week 10. Chapter 8 (pp. 258-280)

Week 11. From the beginning of Chapter 9 to the section “Moral constructivism” (pp. 281-307)

Week 12. From the section “Moral dumbfounding and distributed cognition” to the end of Chapter 9 (pp. 307-316)

We shall keep posting seminar reports. Hopefully you enjoy them.