dualism
main topics covered so far

arguments
validity, soundness
the Chinese room argument
derived vs. underived intentionality
weak vs. strong AI
strong strong vs. weak strong AI
Turing machines
the Turing test
if weak strong AI is true, then the mind is physical, in the sense that only physical materials are needed to build an entity with mental states

so, if the mind is not physical, weak strong AI is false

and according to dualism, a position held by Descartes, the mind is not physical
Descartes

Meditations (1642)
‘Wherein are demonstrated the existence of God and the Distinction of Soul from Body’

Principles of Philosophy (1644)

Passions of the Soul (1649)

René Descartes (1596-1650)
three particulars with a variety of properties (features, attributes)

see handout
substance dualism (Descartes)

‘substance’ is a bit of philosophical terminology that is (more-or-less) interchangeable with ‘particular’

the squares are physical objects: brains, bodies, stones, etc.

the self: a non-physical thing
property dualism (the more contemporary kind)

the self: a physical thing (perhaps a brain, or perhaps an animal) with funky non-physical properties
propositions are the things believed (desired, etc.) and asserted: that snow is white, that Cambridge is a city, that the earth is flat,…

propositions can be true or false

propositions are pieces of information (or misinformation)
1. I cannot doubt that I exist

2. I can doubt that my body exists [or that anything physical exists, come to that] therefore:

C. I am not my body

an argument like this is suggested in the passage on p. 111 that begins ‘I am not that structure of limbs…’ and ends ‘for all that I am still something’ but the next few sentences seem to take it back
1. I cannot doubt that the masked man is before me

2. I can doubt that my father is before me

therefore:

C. the masked man is not my father

the ‘masked man fallacy’
upcoming sessions

read Smullyan, Searle