

Religion and mind

Dr Yujin Nagasawa discusses his research on the philosophy of religion.

Title: **[Philosophy of religion and philosophy of mind](https://schools.ptr/departments/philosophy/research/videos/yujin-nagasawa-research.aspx)**
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My name is Yujin Nagasawa. I'm a senior lecturer in philosophy here at the University of Birmingham.

My research interests lie in two areas of philosophy.

The philosophy of mind and the philosophy of religion.

In both areas, I'm interested in questions that are concerned with the fundamental level of reality.

In the philosophy of mind, I'm interested in the relationship between the mental and the physical. So, for example, how could the brain which is nothing but an organ or a collection of neurons, can generate amazing sensations.

Most contemporary philosophers are physicalists. So, they believe that everything in this world is ultimately physical. Tables and chairs and clouds and plants and electrons and even our sensations are ultimately physical.

But I think there is something with at least the traditional version of physicalism. So, I'm trying to find out whether there is a successful alternative to traditional physicalism.

In the philosophy of religion, I'm interested in such questions as dDoes God exist?. Can we prove the existence of God? Can we disprove the existence of God? And why is there something rather than nothing in the first place?

There are long arguments for and against the existence of God, but I think many of them tend to be dismissed too quickly. I try to find out whether there are good arguments for or against the existence of God and what kind of metaphysical implications we can derive from these arguments. And I find it really fascinating and also exciting to explore these questions because they represent some of the deepest metaphysical questions that we can ask.

And also they represent some of the most fundamental questions and questions that have been puzzling philosophers and scientists for hundreds of years.