

METAPHYSICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY

WINTER SEMESTER 2023–24

READING LIST

A. Introductions to metaphysics and epistemology include:

- T. Crane and D. Wiggins. "Metaphysics". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; vol. 1; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995; pp. 181–249.
- J. Carroll and N. Marcosian. *An Introduction to Metaphysics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- A. Marmodoro and E. Mayr. *Metaphysics: An Introduction to Contemporary Debates and Their History*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.
- J. Dancy. *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1985.
- A. Morton. *A Guide through the Theory of Knowledge*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 1997.
- L. Bonjour. *Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2002. (There was a 2nd edition in 2009.)

B. The list that follows comprises all the books and papers that I used in order to prepare the course. It is arranged by week after week 1, which is introductory. I will put them in a Dropbox folder. You are not expected to read all these works. Have a look at them and select what to read in detail!

2. The Problem of Universals

- T. Crane. "Universals". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- D. Armstrong. *Universals: An Opinionated Introduction*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1989.
- A. Oliver. "The Metaphysics of Properties". *Mind* 105 (1996).

3. Causation

- T. Crane. "Causation". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- D. Davidson. "Causal Relations". In his *Essays on Actions and Events*; 2nd edition; Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2001. Also in *Causation*; eds E. Sosa and M. Tooley; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- D. Lewis. "Causation". In his *Philosophical Papers*; vol. II; New York: Oxford University Press, 1986.
- J. Kim. "Causes and Counterfactuals". In *Causation*; eds E. Sosa and M. Tooley; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Also important is S. Psillos's book *Causation and Explanation* (Chesham: Acumen Press, 2002).

4. Freedom and Determinism

- A. J. Ayer. "Freedom and Necessity". In his *Philosophical Essays*; London: Macmillan, 1954.
- P. Van Inwagen. "The Incompatibility of Free Will and Determinism". *Philosophical Studies* 27 (1975).
- H. Frankfurt. "Alternate Possibilities and Moral Responsibility". *Journal of Philosophy* 66 (1969).

T. Honderich. *How Free Are You? The Determinism Problem*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993.
(Short book for the wider public.)

Ayer's and Van Inwagen's papers are included in *Free Will*; ed. G. Watson; New York: Oxford University Press, 1982. Frankfurt's paper can also be found in the second edition of Watson's *Free Will* (2003).

5. Personal Identity over Time

H. Noonan. *Personal Identity*. London: Routledge, 1989. (A survey. Choose what to read!)

B. Williams. "The Self and the Future". In his *Problems of the Self: Philosophical Papers 1956–1972*; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1973.

D. Parfit. "Personal Identity". *Philosophical Review* 80 (1971).

D. Parfit. *Reasons and Persons*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1984. Part 3.

6. Necessity and Possible Worlds

D. Lewis. *On the Plurality of Worlds*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1986. Sections 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.4, 4.1 and 4.2.

A. Plantinga. *The Nature of Necessity*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1974. Chaps 1 and 4.

7–8. Truth

S. Haack. *Philosophy of Logics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1978. Chap. 7.

P. Engel. *Truth*. London: Routledge, 2002.

L. Wittgenstein. *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*. Translated by D. Pears and B. McGuinness. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1961. Mainly propositions that begin with 1 and 2. (The *Tractatus* should be read in conjunction with one of the good books that explain it. One of them is: R. Fogelin; *Wittgenstein*; London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1976; chaps 1–4.)

J. L. Austin. "Truth". *Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume* 24 (1950).

P. Horwich. *Truth*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1998. Chaps 1 and 7.

9. Scepticism

J. Dancy. *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1985. Chap. 1.

A. Grayling. "Scepticism". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

10. What Is Knowledge?

J. Dancy. *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1985. Chap. 2.

A. Morton. *A Guide through the Theory of Knowledge*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 1997. Chap. 6.

L. Bonjour. *Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002. Chap. 3.

E. Gettier. "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?". *Analysis* 23 (1963).

R. Nozick. "Knowledge and Scepticism". In *Perceptual Knowledge*; ed. J. Dancy; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988.

B. Garrett. "Nozick on Knowledge". *Analysis* 43 (1983).

11. Justification of Beliefs

S. Sturgeon. "Knowledge". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; vol. 1; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

L. Bonjour. *Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002. Chap. 9.

12. Induction

D. Papineau. "Induction and its Problems". In *Philosophy: A Guide through the Subject*; ed. A. Grayling; vol. 1; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

J. Dancy. *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1985. Chap. 13.

L. Bonjour. *Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002. Chap. 4.

N. Goodman. *Fact, Fiction, and Forecast*. 4th edition. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1983.

13. A Priori Knowledge

J. Dancy. *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1985. Chap. 14.

L. Bonjour. *Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002. Chap. 5.

W. V. O. Quine. "Two Dogmas of Empiricism". In his *From a Logical Point of View*; 2nd edition, revised; Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1980.

P. Boghossian και C. Peacocke. *New Essays on the A Priori*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2000. (One can read the introduction and then go on with some of the papers that are included. I would recommend P. Horwich's paper.)

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