

PHIL 2606: Knowledge, Reason and Action
Parts 1-3

In these first nine weeks (18 lectures) of the course we shall consider three questions that are central to epistemology: What is knowledge? (3 weeks, 6 lectures) Can we have knowledge? (3 weeks, 6 lectures) How is perception a source of knowledge? (3 weeks, 6 lectures) In the last four weeks, Luca Moretti will be considering scientific methodology (the problem of induction, qualitative confirmation, falsificationism, and Bayesianism).

Lecturer: Wylie Breckenridge
 Email: wylie.b@new.ox.ac.uk
 Lectures: Friday 10 am, 11 am
 Tutorial: Friday 12 noon
 Room: Eastern avenue seminar room 310
 Texts: Two books of readings from the print shop
 Website: <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~newc1666> (look under 'Teaching')
 Assessment: One 2500 word essay, assigned on Friday 11th August (end of week 3), due on Thursday 7th September (end of week 7).

Lecture schedule

<u>28 Jul</u>	10am	What is knowledge? Gettier, E. L. (1963), 'Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?', in Sven Bernecker and Fred Dretske (eds.) (2000), <i>Knowledge: Readings in Contemporary Epistemology</i> (Oxford: OUP), ch. 2. Feldman, R. (1974), 'An Alleged Defect in Gettier Counter-Examples', in Bernecker and Dretske, ch. 3.
	11am	Can we have knowledge?
<u>4 Aug</u>	10am	Caused justification Goldman, A. I. (1967), 'A Causal Theory of Knowing', <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> 64 , pp. 357-72.
	11am	Undefeated justification Lehrer, K. and Paxson, T. (1969), 'Knowledge: Undefeated Justified True Belief', <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> 66 , pp. 225-37.
<u>11 Aug</u>	10am	Conclusive justification Dretske, F. (1971), 'Conclusive Reasons', in Bernecker and Dretske, ch. 6.
	11am	Tracking Nozick, R. (1981), 'Knowledge and Scepticism', in Bernecker and Dretske, ch. 25.
<u>18 Aug</u>	10am	Can knowledge be analysed?
	11am	Semantic externalism Putnam, H. (1981), 'Brains in a Vat', in Bernecker and Dretske, ch. 27.

<u>25 Aug</u>	10am	Denying closure Dretske, F. (1970), 'Epistemic Operators', <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> 67 , pp. 1007-23.
	11am	Relevant alternatives with closure Stine, G. (1976), 'Skepticism, Relevant Alternatives, and Deductive Closure', <i>Philosophical Studies</i> 29 , pp. 249-61.
<u>1 Sep</u>	10am	Contextualism DeRose, K. (1995), 'Solving the Skeptical Problem', <i>Philosophical Review</i> 104 , pp. 1-52.
	11am	Contextualism II Lewis, D. (1996), 'Elusive Knowledge', in Bernecker and Dretske, ch. 26.
<u>8 Sep</u>	10am	How is perception a source of knowledge?
	11am	Phenomenalism Berkeley, G. (1713), <i>Three Dialogues concerning Hylas and Philonous</i> , first dialogue.
<u>15 Sep</u>	10am	Representative realism Russell, B (1912), <i>The Problems of Philosophy</i> , chapters 1-4.
	11am	Adverbialism Chisholm, R. M. (1966), 'The Status of Appearances', in D. M. Rosenthal (ed.) (1986), <i>The Nature of Mind</i> (New York: Oxford University Press), ch. 40. Jackson, F. (1976), 'The existence of Mental Objects', in Rosenthal, ch. 41.
<u>22 Sep</u>	10am	Disjunctivism
	11am	Representationalism Crane, T. (2001), <i>Elements of Mind</i> (Oxford: OUP), ch. 5.