Graduate class, Trinity Term 2023

Epistemology

Professor T. Williamson

The class will meet on Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m., in the Lecture Room (Rad. Hum.)

Week 1 (26 April) Aesthetic and epistemic feelings in theory evaluation

(to be presented by Mariona Miyata-Sturm)

Reading: Bird, Alexander (2020) “How Can Loveliness Be a Guide to Truth? Inference to the Best Explanation and Exemplars” in *The Aesthetics of Science: Beauty, Imagination and Understanding* (eds. Milena Ivanova and Steven French) Abingdon: Routledge.

<http://www.alexanderbird.org/Research/How_can_loveliness_be_a_guide_to_truth.pdf>

Week 2 (3 May) Heuristics in philosophy

Reading: Chapter 1 of T. Williamson, *Overfitting in Philosophy* (OUP, to appear 2024).

Draft on TW’s webpage: <https://www.philosophy.ox.ac.uk/sitefiles/overfittingdraftch1.pdf>

Week 3 (10 May) Overfitting in philosophy

Reading: Chapter 2 of T. Williamson, *Overfitting in Philosophy* (OUP, to appear 2024)

Draft on TW’s webpage: <https://www.philosophy.ox.ac.uk/sitefiles/overfittingdraftch2.docx.pdf>

Week 4 (17 May) Epistemological consequences of Frege puzzles

Reading: T. Williamson, ‘Epistemological consequences of Frege puzzles’, *Philosophical Topics*, 49 (2021): 287-319. Penultimate draft also available under ‘Papers for downloading’ on TW’s webpage. <https://www.pdcnet.org/collection/authorizedshow?id=philtopics_2021_0049_0002_0287_0319&file_type=pdf>

Week 5 (24 May) Kinds of rationality

Reading: T. Williamson, ‘Ambiguous rationality’, *Episteme*, 14 (2017): 263-274

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/FA3F1CFE4408E1EB366EA884C2A2A5B4/S1742360017000247a.pdf/ambiguous-rationality.pdf>

Week 6 (31 May) Internalist and externalist justification of belief and action

Reading: T. Williamson, ‘Boghossian, Müller-Lyer, the parrot, and the Nazi’, in Luis Oliveira (ed.), *Externalism about Knowledge*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Penultimate draft available under ‘Teaching materials’ on TW’s Faculty webpage.

Week 7 (7 June) Acting on knowledge-how

Reading: T. Williamson, ‘Acting on knowledge-how’, *Synthese* (2022)

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11229-022-03677-z>

Week 8 (14 June) Unexceptional moral epistemology

Reading: T. Williamson, ‘Unexceptional moral knowledge’, *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* (2022)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/jcph/49/4/article-p405_8.xml>