

LSE Seminar -- Summer 2002

The seminar will meet on seven consecutive Wednesdays, beginning on May 8. There also will be meetings on May 17 and 27, and on June 10.

1	Analyticity	WV Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (in <i>From a Logical Point of View</i> ), and "Truth by Convention" (in <i>Ways of Paradox</i> ). Carnap, "Meaning and Synonymy in Natural Languages" ( <i>Phil Studies</i> 1955, 6: 33-48), "Quine on Logical Truth" (in the Schilpp volume on Carnap), and "Quine on Analyticity" (in R. Creath, ed., <i>Dear Carnap, Dear Van</i> , Univ of California Press, 1990).
2		P. Grice and P. Strawson, "In Defense of a Dogma," <i>Phil Rev</i> 1956. Reprinted in P. Grice, <i>Studies in the Way of Words</i> , Harvard University Press. P. Boghossian, "Analyticity Reconsidered" <i>Nous</i> 30:3 (1996) 360-391. G. Harman, "Analyticity Regained?" <i>Nous</i> 30:3 (1996) 392-400.
3		R. Creath, "Every Dogma has its Day." <i>Erkenntnis</i> 35 (1991) 347-389. E. Sober, "Quine's Two Dogmas," <i>Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society</i> , 2000, Supplementary Volume 74: 237-280.
4	Empirically equivalent theories	R. Carnap, "Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology" (in <i>Meaning and Necessity</i> ). W.V. Quine, "Carnap on Ontology" (in <i>Ways of Paradox</i> ); J. Leplin and L. Laudan, "Empirical Equivalence and Underdetermination," <i>J. Phil</i> , 1999, 88: 449-72.
5	Indispensability Arguments	H. Putnam, "Indispensability Arguments," in <i>Philosophy of Logic</i> , Harper & Row, 1971, pp. 57-74. E. Sober, "Mathematics and Indispensability," <i>Phil. Rev.</i> , 1993, 102: 35-58. P. Maddy (1992): "Indispensability and Practice." <i>J. Phil.</i> 89: 275-89.
6	Constructive Empiricism	B. Van Fraassen, <i>The Scientific Image</i> , Oxford UP, 1980, pp. 1-96.
7	Contrastive Empiricism	E. Sober, "Contrastive Empiricism," In <i>From a Biological Point of View</i> , Cambridge University Press, 1994, and E. Sober "Epistemology for Empiricists." In H. Wettstein (ed.), <i>Midwest Studies in Philosophy: Philosophy of Science</i> , vol. 18, University of Notre Dame Press, 1993, pp. 39-61.
8	Criterion of testability	C. Hempel, "Empiricist Criteria of Cognitive Significance -- Problems and Changes." In <i>Aspects of Scientific Explanation and Other Essays</i> . Free Press, 1965, 101-122. B. Skyrms, <i>Pragmatics and Empiricism</i> . Yale University Press, Ch 1. E. Sober, "Testability," <i>Proceedings and Addresses of the APA</i> , 1999, 73: 47-76. Available at the following URL: <a href="http://philosophy.wisc.edu/sober">http://philosophy.wisc.edu/sober</a> .
9	The "super-empirical virtues"	H. Reichenbach, "Two Kinds of Simplicity," In <i>Experience and Prediction</i> , U of Chicago Press, 1938, pp. 373-86. K. Popper, "Simplicity," ch 7 in <i>Logic of Scientific Discovery</i> , Hutchinson, 1959. C. Howson, "On the Consistency of Jeffreys's Simplicity Postulate and its Role in Bayesian Inference." <i>Phil. Quart.</i> , 1988, 38: 68-83; E. Sober, "Let's Razor Ockham's Razor" in D. Knowles (ed.), <i>Explanation and Its Limits</i> , Cambridge UP, 1990, 73-94 (reprinted in <i>From a Biological Point of View</i> ).
10	Akaike and Model Selection	M. Forster and E. Sober, "How to Tell When Simpler, More Unified, or Less <i>Ad Hoc</i> Theories Will Provide More Accurate Predictions." <i>British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i> 1994, 45: 1-36; M. Forster and E. Sober, "Why Likelihood?" In M. Taper and S. Lee (ed.), <i>The Nature of Scientific Evidence</i> , University of Chicago Press, forthcoming. Both available at the following URL: <a href="http://philosophy.wisc.edu/forster">http://philosophy.wisc.edu/forster</a> .