

WILLIAMS

Principles
of
Empirical
Realism

THOMAS

PRINCIPLES OF
EMPIRICAL
REALISM

Seventeen essays and a poem are presented... all centered around the theme of realism as an inductive hypothesis.

Though originally published over a period of twenty-seven years in American, English, and German journals, the papers have a unity equal to that of a single work written continuously.

PHILOSOPHICAL
ESSAYS

DONALD CARY WILLIAMS

Professor of Philosophy
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

With the Editorial Assistance of

HARRY RUJA

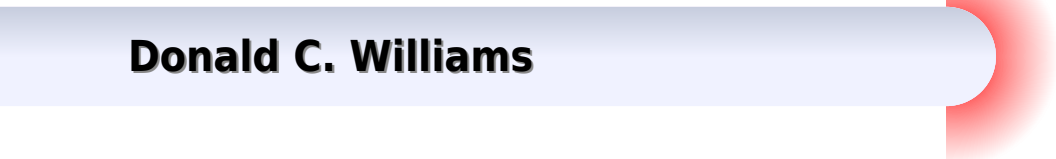
Professor of Philosophy
San Diego State College
San Diego, California

American Lecture Series



Principles Of Empirical Realism Philosophical Essays

Donald C. Williams



Principles Of Empirical Realism Philosophical Essays:

Principles of Empirical Realism Donald Cary Williams, 1980 **Realism, Science, and Pragmatism** Kenneth R. Westphal, 2014-02-24 This collection of original essays aims to reinvigorate the debate surrounding philosophical realism in relation to philosophy of science pragmatism epistemology and theory of perception Questions concerning realism are as current and as ancient as philosophy itself this volume explores relations between different positions designated as realism by examining specific cases in point drawn from a broad range of systematic problems and historical views from ancient Greek philosophy through the present The first section examines the context of the project contributions systematically engage the historical background of philosophical realism re examining key works of Aristotle Descartes Quine and others The following two sections epitomize the central tension within current debates scientific realism and pragmatism These contributions address contemporary questions of scientific realism and the reality of the objects of science and consider whether how or the extent to which realism and pragmatism are compatible With an editorial introduction by Kenneth R Westphal these fourteen original essays provide wide ranging salient insights into the status of realism today The Metaphysics of Donald C. Williams A.R.J. Fisher, 2025-04-29 The thesis of this book is that Williams played a key role in the development and revival of analytic metaphysics This book begins with an account of Williams approach to philosophy given the rise of realism in the early twentieth century with a focus on his use of induction and parsimony to argue for metaphysical theses such as metaphysical realism and metaphysical naturalism It explains his critique of logical positivism and his defence of an empirical conception of metaphysics which in turn reveals how he took himself to be standing up to rising anti metaphysical trends This book then expounds within the framework of his empirical metaphysics his one category trope ontology and its origins arguing that his systematisation of the concept of an abstract particular or trope is his most novel contribution to analytic ontology This book further presents an original interpretation of his account of concrete objects and abstract universals engaging with current debates in the metaphysics of properties sometimes defending Williams sometimes correcting misinterpretations sometimes critically reassessing his views This book also explains his defence of the four dimensional manifold of time and his objections to competing theories such as the growing block theory and presentism incorporating recently posthumously published work in *The Elements and Patterns of Being* ed A R J Fisher 2018 with up to date references to the latest work in the metaphysics of time Lastly this book analyses Williams s influence on later philosophers such as Lewis and Armstrong and others in Australia drawing from correspondence between Williams Lewis and Armstrong and evaluates his place in the history of analytic philosophy concluding that he played a key role in the development and revival of analytic metaphysics **Philosophical Manuscripts** David Lewis, 2023-09-28 David Lewis 1941-2001 was a celebrated and influential figure in analytic philosophy When Lewis died he left behind a large body of unpublished notes manuscripts and letters This volume contains two longer manuscripts which Lewis had originally intended

to turn into books and thirty one shorter items The longer manuscripts are *The Paradoxes of Time Travel* his David Gavin Young Lectures at the University of Adelaide and *Confirmation Theory* which is based on a graduate course on probability and logic that he gave at UCLA Lewis s described his purposes in *The Paradoxes of Time Travel* as being 1 to solve a philosophical problem hitherto largely ignored or casually mis solved by philosophers 2 to introduce the layman to various topics in metaphysics since our problem turns out to connect with many more familiar ones and 3 to show of several of my favorite doctrines and methods in metaphysics By contrast *Confirmation Theory* is a technical work in which Lewis aimed to present in a unified fashion what he considered to be the best from competing theories of confirmation Lewis described the work as Mathematically self contained with proofs for the major theorems but the mathematics is kept down to hairy high school algebra The thirty one shorter items cover such topics as causation freedom of the will probability counterparts reference logic value and divine evil They are included here both for their intrinsic philosophical interest and their historical value This volume also contains an intellectual biography of the young David Lewis by the editors

Newman in the Story of Philosophy D. J. Pratt Morris-Chapman,2021-07-01 Saint John Henry Newman is widely acknowledged to be an important theologian Despite this Newman commentators believe that his work has received little recognition by philosophers This book explores whether or not Newman s supposed philosophical isolation constitutes a misconception in Newman historiography First of all it does this by examining Newman s general philosophical reception over the last two centuries surveying a wide range of philosophical positions and philosophers from the many different branches of this discipline The book then focuses upon whether or not Newman has made a contribution to one specific philosophical position seldom given attention within Newman scholarship the particularist approach to epistemology In its investigations into this and the other more general dimension of Newman s philosophical reception the book offers an historical re evaluation of Newman s philosophical legacy

The Elements and Patterns of Being Donald C. Williams,2018 Donald C Williams 1899 1983 was a key figure in the development of analytic philosophy This book will be the definitive source for his highly original work which did much to bring metaphysics back into fashion It presents six classic papers and six previously unpublished revealing his full philosophical vision for the first time

Realism and Truth Michael Devitt,1997-01-12 In a provocative thesis philosophy professor Michael Devitt argues for a thoroughgoing realism about the common sense and scientific physical world and for a corresponding notion of truthcontrary to the opinions of anti realists such as Putnam Dummett van Fraassen and others This second edition includes a new Afterword by the author

Analytic Philosophy and the Return of Hegelian Thought Paul Redding,2007-09-13 This 2007 book examines the possibilities for the rehabilitation of Hegelian thought within analytic philosophy From its inception the analytic tradition has in general accepted Bertrand Russell s hostile dismissal of the idealists based on the claim that their metaphysical views were irretrievably corrupted by the faulty logic that informed them These assumptions are challenged by the work of such analytic philosophers as John McDowell and

Robert Brandom who while contributing to core areas of the analytic movement nevertheless have found in Hegel sophisticated ideas that are able to address problems which still haunt the analytic tradition after a hundred years Paul Redding traces the consequences of the displacement of the logic presupposed by Kant and Hegel by modern post Fregean logic and examines the developments within twentieth century analytic philosophy which have made possible an analytic re engagement with a previously dismissed philosophical tradition

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Stephen Hetherington, 2013-06-25 Metaphysics and Epistemology A Guided Anthology presents a comprehensive introductory overview of key themes thinkers and texts in metaphysics and epistemology Presents a wide ranging collection of carefully excerpted readings on metaphysics and epistemology Blends classic and contemporary works to reveal the historical development and present directions in the fields of metaphysics and epistemology Provides succinct insightful commentary to introduce the essence of each selection at the beginning of chapters which also serve to inter link the selected writings

Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers John R. Shook, 2005-01-01 The Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers includes both academic and non academic philosophers and a large number of female and minority thinkers whose work has been neglected It includes those intellectuals involved in the development of psychology pedagogy sociology anthropology education theology political science and several other fields before these disciplines came to be considered distinct from philosophy in the late nineteenth century Each entry contains a short biography of the writer an exposition and analysis of his or her doctrines and ideas a bibliography of writings and suggestions for further reading While all the major post Civil War philosophers are present the most valuable feature of this dictionary is its coverage of a huge range of less well known writers including hundreds of presently obscure thinkers In many cases the Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers offers the first scholarly treatment of the life and work of certain writers This book will be an indispensable reference work for scholars working on almost any aspect of modern American thought

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