

# Theory of Knowledge (Semester 2)

View Online



135 items

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## Course text (2 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | This is an epistemology textbook written by me that covers most of the material we look at in this module. I detail which chapter is relevant to each lecture below.

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2017

**Book** | **Recommended** | This is the second edition of my textbook, that includes some new material on scepticism and virtue epistemology.

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## 2. The analysis of knowledge (13 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter X. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Is justified true belief knowledge?** - in Analysis, by Edmund L. Gettier, 1963

**Article** | **Essential** | One of the famous philosophy articles ever! And only 3 pages long.

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**Epistemology**, by Richard A. Fumerton, 2006

**Book** | **Recommended** | Chapter 2. Accessible introduction to the analysis of knowledge

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | **Optional** | Chapter 3. Detailed survey of developments in the analysis of knowledge

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**Inference and the extension of knowledge** - in Epistemology : a contemporary introduction to the theory of knowledge, 2011

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 8. Audi's book, I think, is not as accessible as mine (O'Brien, Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge), but it does provide some sophisticated discussion of this topic.

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**Knowledge is merely true belief** - in American philosophical quarterly, by Sartwell, C., 1991

**Article** | **Optional** | A nice paper by Sartwell that challenges the traditional view that  $K=JTB$

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**Why knowledge is merely true belief** - in Journal of philosophy, by Sartwell, C., 1992

**Article** | **Optional** | Another paper by Sartwell that challenges the traditional view that  $K=JTB$

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**Knowledge: undefeated justified true belief** - in Journal of philosophy, by Lehrer, K. Paxson,

T., 1969

**Article** | **Optional** | Important paper in the development of attempts to analyse knowledge. Pretty technical.

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | **Optional** | #21 and #18 are commentaries on approaches to knowledge taken by Nozick and Williamson, that is, tracking and knowledge-first accounts. This is rather advanced.

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 2. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Epistemology : contemporary readings**, edited by Michael Huemer, 2002

**Book** | **Optional** | All the papers in section 8 are useful.

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**Theory of knowledge**, by Lehrer, Keith, 2000

**Book** | **Optional** | Pages 153-74 (also reprinted in Sosa 'Epistemology: an anthology')

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**Expert or Esoteric? Philosophers Attribute Knowledge Differently Than All Other Academics**

**Article** | **Optional** | Interesting article that suggests that philosophers have a different concept of knowledge to that of other disciplines and lay people.

### 3. Testimony (10 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | Chapter 5. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Testimony: a philosophical study**, by Coady, C. A. J., 1994

**Book** | **Recommended** | This book kickstarted the contemporary debate concerning the epistemology of testimony. Chapter X is relevant to what we will discuss, that is, the reductionism debate.

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**An enquiry concerning human understanding**, by Hume, David; Millican, P. J. R., 2007

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | section 10 of Hume's Enquiry, 'On Miracles', is the key text relating to Hume's account of testimony. An 18th century text, but very readable.

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**Learning from words: testimony as a source of knowledge**, by Jennifer Lackey, 2008

**Book** | **Recommended** | The best book on the epistemology of testimony. Fairly accessible, and chapters X and Y most useful for us.

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**Telling and trusting: reductionism and anti-reductionism in the epistemology of testimony (a critical notice of Coady, Testimony: a philosophical study)** - in Mind, by Fricker, E., 1995

**Article** | **Optional**

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | **Recommended**

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**Epistemology : contemporary readings**, edited by Michael Huemer, 2002

**Book** | **Recommended** | All the papers in part 4 are useful. DETAIL.

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**Testimony and observation** - in Knowledge: readings in contemporary epistemology, by Coady, C., 2000

**Chapter** | **Optional** | This is the paper that forms the basis of chapter X of Coady's Testimony.

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**Essays on the intellectual powers of man: a critical edition**, by Thomas Reid; Derek R. Brookes; Knud Haakonssen, ©2002

**Book** | **Optional**

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**Testimony and memory** - in The seas of language, by Michael Dummett, ©1993

**Chapter** | **Optional**

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## 4. Epistemic Bubbles and Echo-chambers (8 items)

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**Duncan Pritchard, 'Good News, Bad News, Fake News'** - in Epistemology of Fake News, by Duncan Pritchard

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**Conspiracy Theories and the Conventional Wisdom** - in Episteme, by Charles Pigden, 200706

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**Brian Keeley, 'Of Conspiracy Theories'**

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**Conspiracy theories, impostor syndrome, and distrust** - in Philosophical Studies, by Katherine Hawley, 20190102

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**C. Thi Nguyen, 'Echo Chambers and Epistemic Bubbles'**

**Document** | **Recommended**

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**Quassim Cassam, 'Vice Epistemology'**. - in Monist, 2016

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**The Trouble With 'Fake News', David Coady - Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective**

**Webpage** | **Recommended**

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**The epistemology of fake news**, by Sven Bernecker; Amy K. Flowerree; Thomas Grundmann, 2021

**Book** | **Recommended**

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## 5. Foundationalism (15 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | Chapter 6. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Epistemology: a contemporary introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Robert Audi, 2011

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 7. Chapter 8. Audi's book, I think, is not as accessible as mine (O'Brien, Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge), but it does provide some sophisticated discussion of this topic.

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | **Recommended** | sections 8-10

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**Epistemology : contemporary readings**, edited by Michael Huemer, 2002

**Book** | **Recommended** | All the papers in part 7 are useful. **DETAIL.**

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**Can empirical belief have a foundation?** - in American philosophical quarterly, by Bonjour, L., 1978

**Article** | **Recommended**

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**Two types of foundationalism** - in Journal of philosophy, by Alston, W., 1976

**Article** | **Optional**

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | **Optional** | chapter 9

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**The structure of empirical knowledge**, by Bonjour, Laurence, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 4

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**Groundless belief: an essay on the possibility of epistemology**, by Williams, Michael, 1999

**Chapter** | **Optional** | Chapters 2 & 3

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**The given** - in Knowledge: readings in contemporary epistemology, by Price, H., 2000

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**The directly evident** - in Knowledge: readings in contemporary epistemology, by Chisholm, R., 2000

**Chapter** | **Optional**

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**Does empirical knowledge have a foundation** - in Epistemology: an anthology, by Sellars, W., 2008

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**Empiricism and the philosophy of mind**, by Sellars, Wilfrid; Rorty, Richard; Brandom, Robert, 1997

**Book** | **Optional**

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**The raft and the pyramid** - in Knowledge in perspective: selected essays in epistemology, 1991

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | classic article on the debate between foundationalism and coherentism

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**Mind and the world-order: outline of a theory of knowledge**, by Lewis, Clarence Irving, 1956

**Book** | **Optional**

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## 6. Coherentism (10 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | Chapter 7. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Epistemology: a contemporary introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Robert Audi, 2011

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 7. Chapter 8. Audi's book, I think, is not as accessible as mine (O'Brien, Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge), but it does provide some sophisticated discussion of this topic.

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**Epistemology**, by Richard A. Fumerton, 2006

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 4

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**Contemporary debates in epistemology**, by Matthias Steup; John Turri; Ernest Sosa, 2013

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 6

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 9

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**The structure of empirical knowledge**, by Bonjour, Laurence, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 5

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**The coherence theory of knowledge** - in *The structure of empirical knowledge*, by Lehrer, K., 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapters 8 & 9. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Theory of knowledge**, by Lehrer, Keith, 2000

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 4

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**Epistemic justification: internalism vs. externalism, foundations vs. virtues**, by Bonjour, Laurence; Sosa, Ernest, c2003

**Chapter** | **Optional** | Chapter 3

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## 7. Externalism and internalism (18 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | Chapter 8. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**A causal theory of knowing** - in *Journal of philosophy*, by Goldman, A.I., 1967

**Article** | **Recommended** | One of the first externalist accounts of knowledge. A classic.

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**Warrant: the current debate**, by Plantinga, Alvin, 1993

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 1

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**Epistemology**, by Richard A. Fumerton, 2006

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 5

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**Contemporary debates in epistemology**, by Matthias Steup; John Turri; Ernest Sosa, 2013

**Book** | Recommended | chapter 9

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | Recommended | chapter 10

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | Recommended | sections 26-31

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | Recommended | Chapter 3. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Externalist theories of empirical knowledge** - in Midwest studies in philosophy, by Bonjour, L., 1980

**Article** | Recommended | Please note the library does not hold this year of this journal

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**Epistemology: internalism and externalism**, by Kornblith, Hilary, 2001

**Book** | Recommended

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**Belief, truth and knowledge**, by Armstrong, D. M., 1973

**Book** | Optional

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**Knowledge and the flow of information**, by Fred I. Dretske, 1999

**Book** | Optional

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**Epistemology and cognition**, by Goldman, Alvin I., c1986

**Book** | Optional

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**What is justified belief?** - in Justification and knowledge: new studies in epistemology, c1979

**Chapter** | Recommended

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**The internalist conception of justification** - in Midwest studies in philosophy, by Goldman, A.I., 1980

**Article** | Recommended | Please note the library does not hold this year for this journal

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**Epistemic justification: essays in the theory of knowledge**, by Alston, William P., 1990

**Book** | Optional

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**Knowledge and scepticism** - in Perceptual knowledge, by Nozick, R., 1988

**Chapter** | Optional

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**Philosophical explanations**, by Nozick, Robert, 1981

**Chapter** | Recommended | Section 3

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## 8. Scepticism (17 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | Essential | Chapter 9. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Meditations on First Philosophy: With Selections from the Objections and Replies**, by

Rene

Descartes; Michael Moriarty, 2008

**Book** | **Essential** | Meditationj 1 is where Descartes presents his sceptical argument. Some of the most influential pages in all of philosophy!!!

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**Epistemology: a contemporary introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Robert Audi, 2011

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 10. Chapter 8. Audi's book, I think, is not as accessible as mine (O'Brien, Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge), but it does provide some sophisticated discussion of this topic.

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**The significance of philosophical scepticism**, by Stroud, Barry, 1984

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 1

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**The problems of philosophy**, by Bertrand Russell, 2001

**Book** | **Recommended** | Chapter 2

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**Descartes: the project of pure enquiry**, by Bernard Williams, 2005

**Book** | **Optional** | Chapter 2

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapters 7, 11

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**Epistemology**, by Richard A. Fumerton, 2006

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 7

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | **Recommended** | sections 1-3

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**Epistemology : contemporary readings**, edited by Michael Huemer, 2002

**Book** | **Recommended** | All the papers in part 9 are useful. DETAIL.

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**Descartes**, by John Cottingham, 1998

**Book** | **Recommended** | One of the best textbooks on Descartes. Very accessible. Chapter X focuses on Cartesian scepticism.

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 1. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Understanding human knowledge in general** - in Epistemology: an anthology, by Stroud, B., 2008

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**Scepticism**, by Hookway, Christopher, 1990

**Book** | **Optional**

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**Elusive knowledge** - in Epistemology: an anthology, by Lewis, D., 2008

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**The central questions of philosophy**, by Ayer, A. J., 1976

**Chapter** | Recommended | Chapter 5

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**Reason, truth and history**, by Putnam, Hilary, 1981

**Chapter** | Optional | Chapter 1

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## 9. Induction (14 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | Essential | Chapter 10. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**An enquiry concerning human understanding**, by David Hume; P. J. R. Millican, 2007

**Book** | Recommended | Section IV.2 & V.1

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**An abstract of a book lately published; entitled, A treatise of human nature, &c. Wherein the chief argument of that book is farther illustrated and explained**, by Hume, David; Hume, David, [2010]

**Book** | Recommended

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**Hume's enquiry concerning human understanding: reader's guide**, by Alan Bailey; Dan O'Brien, ©2006

**Book** | Recommended | This is my Reader's Guide to Hume's Enquiry and in it you'll find a clear explanation of Hume's problem of induction.

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**A treatise of human nature**, by Hume, David; Norton, David Fate; Norton, Mary J., 2000

**Chapter** | Recommended | Section I.iii.2-8

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**Hume**, by Barry Stroud, 1977

**Book** | Optional | Pages 50-67

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**The problems of philosophy**, by Bertrand Russell, 2001

**Book** | Recommended | Chapter 6

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | Recommended | chapter 4

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**Epistemology : contemporary readings**, edited by Michael Huemer, 2002

**Book** | Recommended | All the papers in part 6 are useful. DETAIL.

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | Recommended | Chapter 13. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Choice and chance: an introduction to inductive logic**, by Skyrms, Brian, c2000

**Book**

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**Hume's inductive scepticism - in Hume**, by Stove, D., 1968

**Chapter**

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**The justification of induction**, by Swinburne, Richard, 1974

**Book** | Optional

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**The new riddle of induction** - in Fact, fiction, and forecast, by Goodman, N., 1983

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | This is the source of the New Riddle of Induction. Not a particularly easy read, but worth the effort. And the New Riddle might be frustrating.

## 10. Naturalizing epistemology (9 items)

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Dan O'Brien, 2006

**Book** | **Essential** | Chapter 11. This is the best place to start with this topic.

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**Epistemology : a contemporary introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Robert Audi, 2011

**Book** | **Recommended**

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**Epistemology naturalised?** - in Epistemology: an anthology, by Quine, W.V.O., 2008

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**Epistemology: classic problems and contemporary responses**, by Laurence Bonjour, c2010

**Book** | **Recommended** | chapter 11

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**Epistemology: a guide**, by John Turri, 2014

**Book** | **Recommended** | sections 39-41

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**An introduction to contemporary epistemology**, by Dancy, Jonathan, 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended** | Chapter 15. This was THE epistemology textbook for 30 or so years. It's a bit dated in places, but it's still very useful.

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**Pursuit of truth**, by Quine, W. V., 1992

**Book** | **Optional**

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**What is 'naturalised epistemology'?** - in The structure of empirical knowledge, by Kim, J., 1985

**Chapter** | **Recommended**

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**Naturalizing epistemology**, by Kornblith, Hilary, c1994

**Book** | **Recommended**

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## Theory of Knowledge textbooks (12 items)

Each of the books below is a good textbook that covers some or most of the topics that we look at in this module. Some are more approachable than others and some are more comprehensive.

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**Problems of knowledge: a critical introduction to epistemology**, by Williams, Michael, c2001

**Book** | **Optional**

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**What can we know?: an introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Pojman, Louis P., c2001

**Book** | **Recommended**

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**A guide through the theory of knowledge**, by Morton, Adam, 2003

**Book** | Recommended

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**Modern epistemology: a new introduction**, by Everitt, Nicholas; Fisher, Alec, c1995

**Book** | Optional

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**Knowledge**, by Evans, Ian; Smith, Nicholas D., 2012

**Book** | Optional

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**An introduction to the theory of knowledge**, by Lemos, Noah Marcelino, 2007

**Book** | Recommended

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**The nature and value of knowledge: three investigations**, by Duncan Pritchard; Alan Millar; Adrian Haddock, 2010

**Book** | Optional

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**Epistemology: a beginner's guide**, by Martin, Robert M., 2010

**Book** | Recommended

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**Theory of knowledge**, by Lehrer, Keith, 2000

**Book** | Optional

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**Contemporary theories of knowledge**, by Pollock, John L., 1987, c1986

**Book** | Optional

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**What is this thing called knowledge?**, by Duncan Pritchard, 2018

**Book** | Recommended

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**Epistemology**, by Hetherington, Stephen Cade, 2012

**Book** | Optional

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## Recommended Anthologies (7 items)

Below are various anthologies of articles on epistemology that could be useful.

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**The Routledge companion to epistemology**, by Sven Bernecker; Duncan Pritchard, 2011

**Book** | Recommended

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**Knowledge: readings in contemporary epistemology**, by Bernecker, Sven; Dretske, Fred I., 2000

**Book** | Recommended

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**Epistemology: an anthology**, by Sosa, Ernest, 2008

**Book** | Recommended

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**The theory of knowledge: classical and contemporary readings**, by Pojman, Louis P., 2003

**Book** | Recommended

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**The Continuum companion to epistemology**, by Cullison, Andrew, 2012

**Book** | Recommended

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**The Blackwell guide to epistemology**, by Greco, John; Sosa, Ernest, 1999

**Book** | Recommended

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**Empirical knowledge: readings in contemporary epistemology**, by Moser, Paul K., c1996

**Book** | Recommended