

## Oxford Philosophy: Its Origins and Legacies

*This is a preliminary syllabus and will change!*

Stanford-in-Oxford  
Winter/Hilary Term 2017  
Professor: Paul Skokowski  
Stanford University  
Thursdays 10:30am-12:30am  
Room: Montag House, 65 High Street, Seminar Room  
Office Hours: Fridays 4:30-5:30pm and by appt.

### Book:

Edmonds and Eidinow, *Wittgenstein's Poker*

### Week 1, Tues Jan 17th: Course Overview & Common Sense Philosophy

Skokowski, [One Philosopher is Correct \(Maybe\)](#), or [here](#). Australasian Journal of Logic, 2010, 9(1).  
Moore, [A Defence of Common Sense](#), read to p.109 through "...propositions enumerated in (1)."  
Moore, [Proof of an External World](#)

### Week 2, Tues Jan 24th: Logical Atomism & Logical Positivism

Russell, *Logical Atomism* (Last para p.6 to p.14, then Sec. 8, p.110-125) - [here](#)  
Wittgenstein, [Tractatus](#), trans. Ogden, Sec 1-1.21 (p.11), Sec 2.1- 3.01 (p. 16-19)  
Schlick, [Positivism and Realism](#)  
*Further Suggested Reading:*  
AJ Ayer, *The Nature of Philosophical Analysis*, Ch. 3 in *Language, Truth and Logic*

### Week 3, Tues Jan 31st: Logical Empiricism and Falsificationism

C. Hempel, [Philosophy of Natural Science](#), Ch. 1-4  
R. Carnap, [The Confirmation of Laws and Theories](#)  
K. Popper, [Science: Conjectures and Refutations](#)

### Week 4, Tues Feb 7th: No Class

Reading: Edmonds and Eidinow, *Wittgenstein's Poker*

### Week 5, Tues Feb 14th: Oxford Philosophy

Ryle, [Descartes' Myth](#), from *Concept of Mind*, 1949.  
Carnap, [Psychology in Physical Language](#)  
John Wisdom, [Philosophical Perplexity](#)

### Week 5, Fri Feb 17th: Field Trip to Cambridge

Guest Speaker: Tim Crane  
Reading: Edmonds and Eidinow, *Wittgenstein's Poker*

### Week 6, Tues Feb 21st: Oxford Philosophy

Visit by Justin Gosling, Principal & Tutor, St Edmund Hall, Oxford  
J.L. Austin, *Other Minds* - [here](#)

### Week 6, Fri Feb 24th: Visit by David Papineau, King's College, London

Papineau review of memoir of Ramsey in the TLS on this [page](#).  
A brief discussion on the Leiter blog of "was Ramsey the greatest 20C philosopher?" [here](#).  
Papineau rant on the intellectual conservatism of much philosophy 2006 [here](#).  
Review of the Ramsey memoir by Ray Monk in the NYRB [here](#).

**Week 7, Tues Feb 28th: Oxford Philosophy**

J.L. Austin, *A Plea for Excuses* - [here](#)

Paul Grice, *Meaning* - [here](#)

Wittgenstein, [Philosophical Investigations](#), Sections 269-311 (pps. 94-103)

**Week 8, Tues Mar 7th: From Behaviorism to Identity Theory**

Putnam, *Brains and Behavior*, [here](#).

Place, [Is Consciousness a Brain Process?](#), *British Journal of Psychology* 47:44-50, 1956.

Smart, [Sensations and Brain Processes](#), *Philosophical Review* 68:141-56, 1959.

*Further Suggested Reading;*

Dennett, *True Believers*, [here](#).

Feigl, *The Mental and the Physical*, [here](#).

**Week 9, Tues Mar 14th: Functionalism & Consciousness**

Putnam, *The Nature of Mental States* (or: *Psychological Predicates*, *Art, Mind, and Religion*, 1965.) - [here](#).

Block, *Troubles with Functionalism*, in *Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science* 9:261-325 (1978), and in *Readings in the Philosophy of Psychology*, Vol. 1, Ned Block (ed.) Harvard, 1980 - and [here](#). (Read from section 1.0 "One characterization of functionalism" through section 1.2, ending with "Call this argument the Absent Qualia Argument." p. 63-73.)

Nagel, [What is it Like to be a Bat?](#), *The Philosophical Review*, LXXXIII(4), 435-450. Another version [here](#).

[Humans Can Learn to "See" With Sound](#), *National Geographic*, 2010.

Jackson, [Epiphenomenal Qualia](#), *Philosophical Quarterly* 32:127-36, 1982.

*Further Suggested Reading:*

Armstrong, *The Causal Theory of the Mind*, [here](#).

Tye, [Another Look at Representationalism about Pain](#)

Skokowski, [Is the Pain in Jane Felt Mainly in her Brain?](#)