

PHIL 2606: Knowledge, Reason and Action

Part 4

In the last eight lectures of the course, we will be focusing on scientific methodology.

Lecturer: Dr Luca Moretti
Email: luca.moretti@arts.usyd.edu.au
Lectures: Friday 10 am, 11 am
Tutorial: Friday 12 noon
Room: Eastern avenue seminar room 310
Texts: One book of readings from the print shop
Website: <http://lucamoretti.org> (look under 'Teaching')
Assessment: one 2500-word take-home exam

Lectures 1&2. Topic: Inductive Logic and the Problem of Induction

Reading list:

- B. Skyrms, *Choice and Chance*, ch. 1;
- B. Skyrms, *Choice and Chance*, ch. 2.

Lectures 3&4. Topic: Qualitative Confirmation

Reading list:

- C. Hempel, 'Studies in the Logic of Confirmation', in his *Aspects of Scientific Explanation: and Other Essays in the Philosophy of Science*;
- T. Grimes. 'Truth, Content, and the Hypothetico-Deductive Method'. *Philosophy of Science* **57** (1990).

Lectures 5&6. Topic: Falsificationism against Inductive Logic

Reading list:

- J. Ladyman, *Understanding Philosophy of Science*, ch. 3, 'Falsificationism';
- I. Lakatos, 'The methodology of scientific research programmes' in I. Lakatos and A. Musgrave (eds.), *Criticism and Growth of Knowledge* (pp. 94-138, 154-159 and 173-177).

Lectures 7&8. Topic: Quantitative Confirmation: Bayesianism

Reading list:

David Papineau, 'Confirmation', in A. C. Grayling (ed.), *Philosophy*.

Additional readings:

- W. C. Salmon (et al.), 1999, *Introduction to philosophy of science*, Hackett Publishing Company, pp. 66-103.
- W. Talbott, 'Bayesian Epistemology', in *Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy* (<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/epistemology-bayesian/index.html>).