

PHIL 5090
Seminar on Western Philosophy:
Modality, Reference, and Conceptual Analysis

Preliminary Course Outline

Time : T 2:30pm – 5:15pm

Location : ELB 307

Course overview

“Saul Kripke’s *Naming and Necessity* is widely acknowledged as one of the most important works of twentieth century philosophy.” Timothy Williamson, blurb praise for Kripke’s *Reference and Existence*.

“(When) these lectures [‘Naming and Necessity’] were first published ..., they stood analytic philosophy on its ear. Everybody was either furious, or exhilarated, or thoroughly perplexed. No one was indifferent.” Richard Rorty, *London Review of Books*

This is a graduate seminar on a set of issues generated by *Naming and Necessity*. We will go over (a) *Naming and Necessity* and some other works by Kripke and (2) a collection of writings representing some of the major responses to, or developments of, Kripke’s ideas and arguments.

Assessment: Class presentation and participation essays.

Selected Bibliography:

Publications by Kripke:

- 1972/80. *Naming and Necessity*, Harvard University Press.
- 1975. “Outline of a Theory of Truth”, *Journal of Philosophy* 72:690–716.
- 1977. “Speaker’s Reference and Semantic Reference”, *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 2: 255-76.
- 1979. “A Puzzle about Belief”, In *Meaning and Use*, edited by A. Margalit, Reidel.
- 2005. “Russell’s Notion of Scope”, *Mind* 114:1005–1037.

Other Publications:

- Almog, J. *et al*, eds. (1989). *Themes from Kaplan*, Oxford University Press.
- Bennett, J. (2003). *A Philosophical Guide to Conditionals*, Clarendon Press.
- Charles S. (2006). *The Worlds of Possibility*, Oxford University Press.
- Davies, M. & I. Humberstone (1980). “Two Notions of Necessity”, *Philosophical Studies* 38, 1-30
- Donnellan, K. (1966). “Reference and Definite Descriptions”, *Philosophical Review* 75: 281-304.
- Donnellan, K. (1983). ‘Kripke and Putnam on Natural Kind Terms’, in C. Ginet and S. Shoemaker (eds.), *Knowledge and Mind*, Oxford University Press, 84-104.
- Dummett, M. (1981). *Frege: Philosophy of Language*, Harvard University Press.
- Evans, G. (1982). *The Varieties of Reference*, Oxford University Press.
- Fitch G.W. (2005). *Saul Kripke*, McGill-Queen’s University Press.
- Forbes, G. (1989). *Language of Possibility*, Blackwell.
- Frege, G. (1892/1952). “On Sense and Reference,” in P. Geach and M. Black (eds.), *Translations from the Works of Gottlob Frege*, Blackwell.
- Garcia-Carpintero, M. & J. Macia (2006). *Two Dimensional Semantics*, Oxford University Press.
- Jackson, F. (1998). *From Metaphysics to Ethics*, Oxford University Press.
- Jackson, Frank (1998a). ‘Reference and Description Revisited’, *Philosophical Perspectives*, 12: 201-218.

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- Jackson, Frank (2010) *Language, Names, and Information*, Wiley-Blackwell.
- Jacquette, D. (2002). *Companion to Philosophical Logic*, Blackwell.
- Lewis, D. (1973). *Counterfactuals*, Harvard University Press.
- Plantinga, A. (1974). *The Nature of Necessity*, Oxford University Press
- Putnam, H. (1975). *Mind, Language, and Reality: Philosophical Papers*, vol. 2. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Quine, W. (1953/80). *From a Logical Point of View*, second ed., Harvard University Press.
- Richard, M. (1990). *Propositional Attitudes*, Cambridge University Press.
- Russell, B. (1905). "On Denoting", *Mind* 14: 479-93.
- Salmon, N. (1981). *Reference and Essence*, Prometheus Books.
- Salmon, N. (1986). *Frege's Puzzle*, MIT Press.
- Schiffer, S. (2003). *The Things We Mean*, Oxford University Pres.
- Soames, S. (2002). *Beyond Rigidity: The Unfinished Semantic Agenda of Naming and Necessity*, Oxford University Press.
- Soames, S. (2002). *Reference and Description: The Case against Two-Dimensionalism*, Princeton University Press.
- Stalnaker, R. (1999). *Context and Content: Essays on Intentionality in Speech and Thought*, Oxford University Press.
- Stalnaker, R. (2003). *Ways a World Might Be*, Oxford University Press.

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