

Induction

I. Reading

A. compulsory readings:

- Hume, D., *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, §IV.
- Goodman, N., 'The New Riddle of Induction', in *Fact, Fiction and Forecast*, Harvester (1979). Also available in Michael Huemer (ed.), *Epistemology: Contemporary Readings*, Routledge (2002) and in Bernecker and Dretske (eds.), *Knowledge: Readings in Contemporary Epistemology*, OUP (2000)
- Mellor, D.H., 'The warrant of induction', in Mellor, D. H., *Matters of Metaphysics*, Chapter 15, pp.254-268, Cambridge University Press (1991).
- Russell, B., *The problems of Philosophy*, chapter 6, pages 60-69. Reprinted in Bernecker and Dretske (eds.).

B. additional optional readings:

- Harman, G., '[The Inference to the Best Explanation](#)', *Philosophical Review* 74, pp. 88–95 (1965)
- Strawson, P. F., *An Introduction to Logical Theory* (Oxford University Press (1952), pp. 233–63.
- Reichenbach, H., 'The pragmatic justification of induction', in Bernecker and Dretske (eds.).

II. Writing

Write an essay discussing the following issues: what is the traditional problem of induction? What is Goodman's new riddle of induction? How are the two problems related? Is reasoning by induction ultimately justified?