

Knowledge and Reality

Scepticism

Primary Readings

- (!) **Putnam, H., 'Brains in a vat'**, in Putnam, H., *Reason, Truth, and History*, CUP (1981). Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield (eds.).
- (!) **Lewis, D., 'Elusive Knowledge'**, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 74 (1996), pp. 549-567. Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield.
- (!) **Hill, C., 'Process Reliabilism and Cartesian Scepticism'**, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 56 (1996), pp. 567-581. Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield.
- (!) **Stein, G., 'Skepticism, Relevant Alternatives, and Deductive Closure'**, *Philosophical Studies* 29 (1976), pp. 249-261. Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield.
- **Williamson, T., *Knowledge and Its Limits***, OUP (2000), esp. ch. 8.
- **DeRose, K., 'Solving the Skeptical Problem'**, *Philosophical Review* 104 (1995), pp. 1-52). Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield.
- **Fred Dretske, 'Epistemic Operators'**, *Journal of Philosophy* 67 (1970): 1007-23. Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield.
- **Unger, P., 'A Defense of Skepticism'**, *Philosophical Review* 80 (1971): pp. 198-219. Reprinted in Bernecker and Dretske (eds.).
- **Hawthorne, J., *Knowledge and Lotteries***, Clarendon Press (2004).

Useful Collections:

- DeRose, K., and Warfield, T. (eds.), *Scepticism: a Contemporary Reader*, OUP (1999).

Background Reading

- The introduction in DeRose and Warfield.

Questions:

- (1) How do you know that you are not a brain in a vat?
- (2) Is there a defensible position according to which you don't know that you're not a brain in a vat but you do know that you have hands?