106: Philosophy of Science and Social Science  
Dr. S. Saunders

Part B: Philosophy of Social Science

[For Part A use reading list 105 & 106: Philosophy of Science]

Introductory Texts:


Central Texts:


Compilations:


M. Brodbeck, ed., *Readings in the Philosophy of the Social Sciences*, 


**Topics:**

**Explanation: Laws**


**Further Reading**


**Explanation: Interpretation**


**Further reading**


**Explanation: Historical Explanation**

C. Hempel, Ch.10 (Introduction, Part 1, sections 2,3,6), Ch. 11 (Introduction, Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.3), *Aspects of Scientific Explanation*, New York: The Free Press (1965).


**Further Reading**


**Explanation: Functional Explanation**


**Further Reading**


**Social Prediction**


**Further Reading**


A. Grunbaum, "Can we Ascertain the Falsity of a Scientific Hypothesis?", in E. Nagel, Bromberger, and


**Prediction and Explanation in Economics**


**Further Reading**


J. Hicks, Ch.1, Causality in Economics, Oxford: Blackwell, 1979.


**Rationality: Social Meaning**


D. Davidson, "Belief and the Basis of Meaning", in his Inquiries into Truth and Interpretation, Oxford: OUP, 1983.


**Further Reading**
C. Geertz, "From the Native Point of View", in The Interpretation of Culture, new York: Harper Collins, 1983.


W.V. Quine, Ch.1,2, Word and Object, Cambridge MA: Harvard.


**Rationality: Rational Choice Theory**


**Further Reading**


**Rationality: The Sociology of Knowledge**

D. Bloor and B. Barnes, "Relativism, Rationality, and the Sociology of Knowledge", in Hollis and Lukes, Rationality and Relativism


W. Newton-Smith, The Rationality of Science, Ch.10, 1981.

**Further reading**


**Individualism**


**Further Reading**


**Values and Objectivity**


Further Reading


Social Facts and Objectivity


A. Rosenberg, Ch.5, Philosophy of the Social Sciences.

Further Reading


