**Anti-Representationalism as Neopragmatism and Global Expressivism**

Philosophy 2695—Fall 2020

Tuesday 1:15pm to 3:45pm, on Zoom

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1. August 18, 2020: Introduction. The Concept of Representation.

Descriptivism and Semantic Representationalism.

Two Kinds of Anti-Representationalism.

**Part One: Antirepresentationalism as Pragmatism: Richard Rorty and Cheryl Misak.**

1. August 25, 2020: Rorty’s Critique of Enlightenment Representationalism,

and (so) of Analytic Philosophy.

* Rorty, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* (1979) Introduction.
* Rorty, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* (1979) Ch. 3.
* Rorty, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* (1979) Ch. 4.

Supplementary:

* Rorty, “The World Well Lost” (1972).
* Bruce Kuklick, “40 Years After *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*” (2019).

1. September 1, 2020: Rorty Finds His Pragmatist Voice

* Rorty, “Pragmatism, Relativism, and Irrationalism” (APA Presidential Address, 1980).
* Rorty, *Consequences of Pragmatism* (1982) Introduction.
* Rorty, “Antirepresentationalism, ethnocentrism, and liberalism,” (Introduction to *Objectivity, Relativism, and Truth*, 1991).
* Rorty, “Overcoming the Tradition: Heidegger and Dewey” (1976).
* Brandom “An Arc of Thought” (2008).

Supplementary:

* John McDowell, “Towards Rehabilitating Objectivity” (in Brandom (ed.) *Rorty and His Critics*, 1999).
* Yvonne Huetter-Almerigi “Two Forms of Realism: Making Sense of Rorty’s Controversy with Brandom and Ramberg over Objectivity” (2020).

1. September 8, 2020: Cheryl Misak’s Critique of Rorty’s Pragmatism

* Misak, “Rorty, Pragmatism, and Analytic Philosophy” (2013).
* Misak, “American Pragmatism and Indispensability Arguments” (Presidential Address, 2011).
* Björn Ramberg, “Being Constructive: Misak’s Creation of Pragmatism” (2013).

Supplementary:

* Christopher Hookway “Review of Cheryl Misak’s *The American Pragmatists*” (2013).
* Alan Richardson, “What Good is a (Indeed This) History of Pragmatism” (Review of Misak’s *The American Pragmatists*, 2013)
* Robert B. Talisse, “Recovering American Philosophy” (Review of Misak’s *The American Pragmatists*, 2013).
* Misak, “Reply to Four Instructive Critics” (2013).
* H. O. Mounce “Review of Cheryl Misak’s *The American Pragmatists*” (2015).
* Misak, “Pragmatism and Pluralism” (2005).
* Robert B. Talisse, “Pragmatism Deflated” (on Misak’s *Cambridge Platonism*, 2018).
* Rorty, “Pragmatism Without Method” (from *Objectivity, Relativism, and Truth*, 1991).

1. September 15, 2020: Rorty’s Literary *Kehre*

* Rorty, “Nineteenth Century Idealism and Twentieth Century Textualism” (1981).
* Brandom “Vocabularies of Pragmatism: Synthesizing Naturalism and Historicism” (1999).
* [For short version, see:] Brandom “Rorty on Vocabularies” (2017).
* Rorty, “Solidarity or Objectivity?” (Howison Lecture, 1983).

Supplementary:

* Ramberg “For the Sake of His Own Generation: Rorty on Destruction and Edification” (2010).
* Ramberg, “Rorty, Davidson, and the Future of Metaphysics in America” (in Cheryl Misak (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of American Philosophy*, 2008).
* Christopher Voparil, “Rorty and Brandom: Pragmatism and the Ontological Priority of the Social” (2011).

1. September 22, 2020: Rorty’s Political *Kehre*

* Rorty, “Pragmatism as Anti-Authoritarianism” (1999).
* Rorty, *Pragmatism, a View*” Preface (1999).
* Rorty, “Pragmatism and Religion” (Girona Lectures #1, 1996).
* Rorty, “Pragmatism as Romantic Polytheism” (Girona Lectures #2, 1996).

Supplementary:

* Brandom, “Achieving the Enlightenment” (Foreword to Richard Rorty, *Pragmatism: A View*, Eduardo Emendieta (ed.), Harvard University Press, forthcoming in 2021.)

1. September 29, 2020: Assessing Rorty’s Pragmatism as Anti-Representationalism

Brandom “Fetishism, Anti-Authoritarianism, and the Second Enlightenment: Rorty and Hegel on Representation and Reality” (2020).

* Lecture 1: “A Rortyan Master-Argument—Its Premises and Development.”
* Lecture 2: “Hegel’s Recollective Account of Representation.”

Supplementary:

* Paul Redding, “Pragmatism, Idealism, and the Modal Menace: Rorty, Brandom, and the Truths about Photons” (2013).
* Steven Levine, “Rehabilitating Objectivity: Rorty, Brandom, and the New Pragmatism” (2010)
* Paul Redding, “Rorty on Hegel on the Mind in History” (2020).

**Part Two: Antirepresentationalism as Expressivism. Huw Price and Simon Blackburn.**

1. October 6, 2020: Anti-Representationalism, Pragmatism, and Expressivism

* Huw Price, “Naturalism without Representationalism” (2007).
* Huw Price and David Macarthur, "Pragmatism, Quasi-Realism, and the Global Challenge" (from Cheryl Misak *The New Pragmatists*, 2007).

Supplementary:

* Lionel Shapiro, “Linguistic Function and Content: Reflections on Price’s Pragmatism” (2014).

1. October 13, 2020: Huw Price on Representationalism, Rorty, and Expressivism

* Price, “One Cheer for Representationalism” (2008).
* Price, “Expressivism for Two Voices” (2010).
* Blackburn, “Pragmatism: All or Some?” (in Huw Price *Expressivism, Pragmatism, and Representationalism* CUP, 2013).

Supplementary:

* David Macarthur, “Pragmatism, Metaphysical Quietism, and the Problem of Normativity” (2008).

1. October 20, 2020: Simon Blackburn on Expressivism and Pragmatism

* Blackburn, “Landscapes of Pragmatism” (2009).
* Blackburn, “Pragmatism: Some or All or Some and All?” [Not the same as the essay from Week 9.]
* Price, “From Quasirealism to Global Expressivism – and Back Again?” (2015).

Supplementary:

* Blackburn, “Wittgenstein, Wright, Rorty and Minimalism” (1998).
* Misak, “Deflating Truth: Pragmatism vs. Minimalism” (1998).

1. October 27, 2020: Price on Sellars and McDowell,

Blackburn on Brandom and McDowell

* Price: “Wilfrid Sellars Meets Cambridge Pragmatism” (2016).
* Price “Idling and Sidling Towards Philosophical Peace” (2010).
* Blackburn, “The Steps from Doing to Saying” (Presidential Address to Aristotelian Society, 2009).
* Blackburn, “Pragmatism, Minimalism, and the Space of Reasons” (2001).

Supplementary:

* Sarin Marchetti, “Brandom and Pragmatism: Remarks on a Still Open Question” (2016).

1. November 3, 2020: Price’s Pragmatist Philosophy of Language

* Price, “Truth as Convenient Friction” (2003).
* Price, Rorty “Exchange on ‘Truth as Convenient Friction’” (2005).
* Price, “Three Norms of Assertibility, or How the MOA Went Extinct” (1998).
* Price, “Quining Naturalism” (2007).

Supplementary:

* Albert Atkin, “Intellectual Hope as Convenient Friction” (2015).
* Price, “Truth and the Nature of Assertion” (1987).
* Price, “Metaphysical Pluralism” (1992).
* Michael Williams, “How Pragmatists Can Be Local Expressivists” (in Huw Price *Expressivism, Pragmatism, and Representationalism* CUP, 2013).

1. November 10, 2020: Global or Local Expressivism? The Current State of Play

* Brandom, “Global Anti-Representationalism?” (in Huw Price *Expressivism, Pragmatism, and Representationalism* CUP, 2013).
* Price, “Global Expressivism by the Method of Differences” (2019).

Supplementary:

* Ramberg, “Do Pragmatic Naturalists Have Souls?” (2018).

1. November 17, 2020: Conclusion.

Rationales and Prospects for Anti-Representationalism

Some Further Resources (available on course webpage):

* Richard Rorty’s webpage, with bibliography: <https://web.stanford.edu/~mvr2j/rr/>
* Richard Rorty Society: <https://richardrortysociety.org/>
* Rorty, “Intellectual Autobiography” (2010).
* Rorty, *Contingency, Irony, and Solidarity* (1989).
* *The Roots of Rorty’s Philosophy*—*Pragmatism Today* (vol 2, Issue 1, Summer 2011).
* *Pragmatism and Literature*—*Pragmatism Today* (vo2, Issue 2, Winter 2011).