

AMA Announcement: Monday 5/7/18 1PM EDT - Duncan Pritchard on epistemology, scepticism and applied epistemology

BernardJOrtcutt¹ and r/Science AMAs¹

¹Affiliation not available

April 17, 2023

Abstract

The moderators of /r/philosophy are pleased to announce an upcoming AMA by Professor Duncan Pritchard, Chancellor's Professor of Philosophy, UC Irvine & Professor of Philosophy, University of Edinburgh. This AMA is the seventh in our Spring 2018 AMA Series; you can find more details on all of this semester's AMAs with philosophers by going to the AMA Hub Post. You can find all of our previous AMAs over the years by going to the AMA wiki. Professor Pritchard will be joining us on Monday May 7th at 1PM EDT to discuss issues in epistemology and scepticism. Hear it from him: Duncan Pritchard I'm Chancellor's Professor of Philosophy at the University of California, Irvine, and Professor of Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh. I work mainly in epistemology. In my first book, *Epistemic Luck*, (Oxford UP, 2005), I argued for a distinctive methodology that I call anti-luck epistemology, and along the way offered a modal account of luck. In my second book, *The Nature and Value of Knowledge: Three Investigations*, (with A. Haddock & A. Millar), (Oxford UP, 2010), I expanded on anti-luck epistemology to offer a new theory of knowledge (anti-luck virtue epistemology), and also explained how knowledge relates to such cognate notions as understanding and cognitive achievement. I also discussed the topic of epistemic value. In my third book, *Epistemological Disjunctivism*, (Oxford UP, 2012), I defended a radical conception of perceptual knowledge, one that treats such knowledge as paradigmatically supported by reasons that are both rational and reflectively accessible. In my most recent book, *Epistemic Angst: Radical Scepticism and the Groundlessness of Our Believing*, (Princeton UP, 2015), I offer an innovative response to the problem of radical scepticism. This argues that what looks like a single problem is in fact two logically distinct problems in disguise. Accordingly, I argue that we need a 'biscopic' resolution to scepticism that is suitably sensitive to each aspect of the sceptical difficulty. To this end I bring together two approaches to radical scepticism that have hitherto been thought to be competing, but which I argue are in fact complementary—viz., epistemological disjunctivism and a Wittgensteinian hinge epistemology. Right now I'm working on a new book on scepticism as part of Oxford UP's 'a very short introduction to' series. I'm also developing my recent work on risk and luck, particularly with regard to epistemic risk, and I'm interested in 'applied' topics in epistemology, such as the epistemology of education, the epistemology of law, the epistemology of religious belief, and the epistemological implications of extended cognition. I'm the Editor-in-Chief of the online journal *Oxford Bibliographies: Philosophy*, and co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*. I am also the series editor of two book series, *Palgrave Innovations in Philosophy and Brill Studies in Skepticism. I've edited a lot of volumes, and also written/edited several textbooks. On the latter front, see especially *What is this Thing Called Philosophy?*, (Routledge, 2015), *Epistemology*, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), and *What is this Thing Called Knowledge?*, (Routledge, 4th ed. 2018). I've been involved with numerous MOOCs (= Massive Open Online Courses), including the 'Introduction to Philosophy' course which was for one time the world's most popular MOOC. I've also been involved with a successful *Philosophy in Prisons* programme. I've led quite a few large externally funded projects, often of an interdisciplinary nature. Some highlights include a major AHRC-funded project (c. £510K) on *Extended Knowledge*, and two Templeton-funded projects, *Philosophy, Science and Religion Online* (c. £1.5M), and *Intellectual Humility MOOC* (c. £400K). In 2007 I was awarded the Philip Leverhulme Prize and in 2011 I was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In 2013 I delivered the annual Sochow Lectures in Philosophy in Taiwan. My Google Scholar Profile is here. If you want to know what will eventually cause my demise, click here. Links of Interest: I was recently interviewed by 3AM: Magazine Another recent interview, this time with the Italian online journal, *APhEx* (PDF) The Introduction to my latest monograph, *Epistemic Angst: Radical Scepticism and the Groundlessness*

of Our Believing (Princeton UP, 2015) “Epistemological Disjunctivism: A First Pass”, the opening chapter to Epistemological Disjunctivism (Oxford UP, 2012) A fairly recent video of a talk I gave at a conference in Bonn that gives an overview of my stance on radical scepticism A fairly recent video of a talk on ‘Faith and Reason’ that I gave to a conference (aimed at a general audience) organized by the Royal Institute of Philosophy A ‘research in a nutshell’ video that I recorded a few years ago A recent blog post on ‘Intellectual Humility and Conviction’, for the Open For Debate Blog A recent blog post on ‘Farewell to Epistemic Angst’, for the Imperfect Cognitions Blog “The Value of Knowledge”, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy article AMA Please feel free to post questions for Professor Pritchard here. He will look at this thread before he starts and begin with some questions from here while the initial questions in the new thread come in. Please join me in welcoming Professor Pritchard to our community!

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