

On Certainty Ludwig Wittgenstein

In 1938 Wittgenstein delivered a short course of lectures on aesthetics to a small group of students at Cambridge. The present volume has been compiled from notes taken down at the time by three of the students: Rush Rhees, Yorick Smythies, and James Taylor. They have been supplemented by notes of conversations on Freud (to whom reference was made in the course on aesthetics) between Wittgenstein and Rush Rhees, and by notes of some lectures on religious belief. As very little is known of Wittgenstein's views on these subjects from his published works, these notes should be of considerable interest to students of contemporary philosophy. Further, their fresh and informal style should recommend Wittgenstein to those who find his *Tractatus* and *Philosophical Investigations* a little formidable.

Seminar paper from the year 2014 in the subject Philosophy - Philosophy of the Present, grade: 2,0, University of Vienna (Institut für Philosophie), course: Wittgenstein and Epistemology, language: English, abstract: The phenomenon of religious belief poses many interesting and challenging questions: Those who don't have the privilege of believing in miracles, divine providence, or resurrection often find it difficult to understand the meaning of religious concepts in a society characterized by a primarily scientific paradigm in fields like economy, technics, justice, or politics. A number of questions concerning religious belief seem to have puzzled also Ludwig Wittgenstein

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and he came up with interesting questions and answers to this effect. His concept of hinge beliefs, if applicable to religious belief, is a surprising and convincing explanation of the phenomenon of religious belief. But can it really be applied to religion and did Wittgenstein do that? This paper will try to find answers to these questions.

Completely revised throughout, *Culture and Value* is a selection from Wittgenstein's notebooks -- on the nature of art, religion, culture, and the nature of philosophical activity.

Major Works is the finest single-volume anthology of influential philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein's important writings. Featuring the complete texts of *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, *The Blue and Brown Books: Studies for 'Philosophical Investigations'*, and *On Certainty*, this new collection selects from the early, middle, and later career of this revolutionary thinker, widely recognized as one of the most profound minds of all time.

The volume is full of thought-provoking insight which will prove a stimulus both to further study and to scholarly disagreement.

Wittgenstein and the Practice of Philosophy introduces Wittgenstein's philosophy to senior undergraduates and graduate students. Its pedagogical premise is that the best way to understand Wittgenstein's thought is to take seriously his methodological remarks. Its interpretive premise is that those methodological remarks are the natural result of Wittgenstein's rejection of his early view of the

ground of value, including semantic value or meaning, as something that must lie “outside the world.” This metaphysical view of meaning is replaced in his transitional writings with a kind of conventionalism, according to which meaning is made possible by the existence of grammatical conventions that are implicit in our linguistic practices. The implicit nature of these conventions makes us vulnerable to a special kind of confusion that results from lacking a clear view of the norms that underlie our linguistic practices. This special confusion is characteristic of philosophical problems, and the task of philosophy is the therapeutic one of alleviating confusion by helping us to see our grammatical norms clearly. This development of this therapeutic view of philosophy is traced from Wittgenstein’s early *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* through his transitional writings and lectures to his great masterwork, *Philosophical Investigations*, and his final reflections on knowledge and scepticism in *On Certainty*. Wittgenstein’s discussions of naming, family resemblances, rule-following and private language in *Philosophical Investigations* are all examined as instances of this sort of method, as is his discussion of knowledge in *On Certainty*. The book concludes by considering some objections to the viability of Wittgenstein’s method and speculating on how it might be extended to a discussion of moral value to which Wittgenstein never explicitly returns.

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The Past Masters Collected Works of Ludwig Wittgenstein database comprises the English language translations of the Wittgenstein corpus as published by Basil Blackwell in Oxford.

Wittgenstein's last work, *On Certainty*, is widely regarded as his third masterpiece of philosophy and one of his most enigmatic writings. *On Certainty* explores the ways in which claims of indisputable knowledge are expressed, and how language forms the basis of such claims. *On Certainty* has largely been read as representing a break with Wittgenstein's previous thinking, but this study places these ideas firmly in the development of his thought since the 1930s.

Wittgenstein on Certainty and Doubt illuminates Wittgenstein's examination of the logical features of epistemic terms--such as 'know', 'believe' and 'doubt'--and his interrogation of the foundations of human knowledge, the extent to which our knowledge is immune from doubt, and the conflicts between different articulations of knowledge.

Since the middle of the 20th century Ludwig Wittgenstein has been an exceptionally influential and controversial figure wherever philosophy is studied. This is a comprehensive volume on Wittgenstein where 35 scholars explore the whole range of his thought, offering critical engagement and original interpretation.

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Ludwig Wittgenstein's *On Certainty* was finished just before his death in 1951 and is a running commentary on three of G.E. Moore's greatest epistemological papers. In the early 1930s, Moore had written a lengthy commentary on Wittgenstein, anticipating some of the issues Wittgenstein would discuss in *On Certainty*. The philosophical relationship between these two great philosophers and their overlapping, but nevertheless differing, views is the subject of this book. Both defended the existence of certainty and thus opposed any form of skepticism. However, their defenses and conceptions of certainty differed widely, as did their understanding of the nature of skepticism and how best to combat it. Stroll's book contains a careful and critical analysis of their differing approaches to a set of fundamental epistemological problems.

Wittgenstein's dictionary for children: a rare and intriguing addition to the philosopher's corpus, in English for the first time "I had never thought the dictionaries would be so frightfully expensive. I think, if I live long enough, I will produce a small dictionary for elementary schools. It appears to me to be an urgent need." -Ludwig Wittgenstein In 1925, Ludwig Wittgenstein, arguably one of the most influential philosophers of the 20th century, wrote a dictionary for elementary school children. His *Wörterbuch für Volksschulen* (Dictionary for Elementary Schools) was designed to meet what he considered an urgent need: to help his students learn to spell. Wittgenstein began teaching kids in rural Austria in 1920 after abandoning his life and work at Cambridge University. During this time there were only two dictionaries available. But

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one was too expensive for his students, and the other was too small and badly put together. So Wittgenstein decided to write one. *Word Book* is the first-ever English translation of *Wörterbuch*. This publication aims to encourage and reinvigorate interest in one of the greatest modern philosophers by introducing this gem of a work to a wider audience. *Word Book* also explores how *Wörterbuch* portends Wittgenstein's radical reinvention of his own philosophy and the enduring influence his thinking holds over how art, culture and language are understood. *Word Book* is translated by writer and art historian Bettina Funcke, with a critical introduction by scholar Désirée Weber, and accompanied with art by Paul Chan. Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951) was an Austrian-born British philosopher, regarded by many as the greatest philosopher of the 20th century. He played a decisive if controversial role in 20th-century analytic philosophy, and his work continues to influence fields as diverse as logic and language, perception and intention, ethics and religion, aesthetics and culture.

Examines Wittgenstein's philosophical analysis of rules and their observance, focusing on his concept of private language

This is the first collection of papers devoted to Ludwig Wittgenstein's cryptic but brilliant, *On Certainty*. This work, Wittgenstein's last, extends the thinking of his earlier, better known writings, and in so doing, makes the most important contribution to epistemology since Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* - a claim the essays in this volume help to demonstrate. The essays have been grouped under four headings, reflecting current approaches to the work: the Framework, Transcendental, Epistemic, and Therapeutic readings.

Incorporating significant editorial changes from earlier editions, the fourth edition of Ludwig Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* is the definitive en face German-English version of

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the most important work of 20th-century philosophy The extensively revised English translation incorporates manyhundreds of changes to Anscombe's original translation Footnoted remarks in the earlier editions have now beenrelocated in the text What was previously referred to as 'Part 2' is nowpublished as Philosophy of Psychology – A Fragment,and all the remarks in it are numbered for ease of reference New detailed editorial endnotes explain decisions oftranslators and identify references and allusions in Wittgenstein'soriginal text Now features new essays on the history of the PhilosophicalInvestigations, and the problems of translatingWittgenstein's text

Rush Rhees, a close friend of Wittgenstein and a major interpreter of his work, shows how Wittgenstein's On Certainty concerns logic, language, and reality – topics that occupied Wittgenstein since early in his career. Authoritative interpretation of Wittgenstein's last great work, On Certainty, by one of his closest friends. Debunks misconceptions about Wittgenstein's On Certainty and shows that it is an essay on logic. Exposes the continuity in Wittgenstein's thought, and the radical character of his conclusions. Contains a substantial and illuminating afterword discussing current scholarship surrounding On Certainty, and its relationship to Rhees's work on this subject.

Written over the last 18 months of his life and inspired by his interest in G. E. Moore's defense of common sense, this much discussed volume collects Wittgenstein's reflections on knowledge and certainty, on what it is to know a proposition for sure.

Updated edition of this important book, charting the development of

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Wittgenstein's philosophy of the mind, language, logic, and mathematics. Wittgenstein scholarship has continued to grow at a pace few could have anticipated - a testament both to the fertility of his thought and to the thriving state of contemporary philosophy. In response to this ever-growing interest in the field, we are delighted to announce the publication of a second series of critical assessments on Wittgenstein, emphasising both the breadth and depth of contemporary Wittgenstein research. As well as papers on the nature and method of Wittgenstein's philosophy, this second collection also relates to a broader range of topics, including psychology, politics, art, music and culture.

Ludwig Wittgenstein is arguably the most important philosopher of the twentieth century. In *On Certainty* he discusses central issues in epistemology, including the nature of knowledge and scepticism. The Routledge Philosophy Guidebook to Wittgenstein and *On Certainty* introduces and assesses: Wittgenstein's career and the background to his later philosophy the central ideas and text of *On Certainty*, including its responses to G.E. Moore and discussion of fundamental issues in the theory of knowledge Wittgenstein's continuing importance in contemporary philosophy. This GuideBook is essential reading for all students of Wittgenstein, and for those studying epistemology and philosophy of language. *On Certainty*, Wittgenstein's final work, addresses a category of "world-picture"

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propositions discovered by G.E. Moore. These challenge Wittgenstein's enduring commitment to a well-defined category of empirical propositions, and help to generate a critique of scepticism. Developing Wittgenstein's view that scepticism is self-undermining, the Guidebook offers a combative yet therapeutic interpretation that locates *On Certainty* between the standpoints of Kant and Hume.

Written over the last 18 months of his life and inspired by his interest in G. E. Moore's defence of common sense, this much discussed volume collects Wittgenstein's reflections on knowledge and certainty, on what it is to know a proposition for sure.

Does scepticism threaten our common sense picture of the world? Does it really undermine our deep-rooted certainties? Answers to these questions are offered through a comparative study of the epistemological work of two key figures in the history of analytic philosophy, G. E. Moore and Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Perhaps the most important work of philosophy written in the twentieth century, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* was the only philosophical work that Ludwig Wittgenstein published during his lifetime. Written in short, carefully numbered paragraphs of extreme brilliance, it captured the imagination of a generation of philosophers. For Wittgenstein, logic was something we use to conquer a reality which

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is in itself both elusive and unobtainable. He famously summarized the book in the following words: 'What can be said at all can be said clearly; and what we cannot talk about we must pass over in silence.' David Pears and Brian McGuinness received the highest praise for their meticulous translation. The work is prefaced by Bertrand Russell's original introduction to the first English edition.

Exploring Certainty: Wittgenstein and Wide Fields of Thought considers how, where, and to what extent the thoughts and ideas found in Wittgenstein's On Certainty can be applied to other areas of thought, including: ethics, aesthetics, religious belief, mathematics, cognitive science, and political theory. Robert Greenleaf Brice opens new avenues of thought for scholars and students of the Wittgensteinian tradition, while introducing original philosophies about human knowledge and cognition.

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