

PHILOSOPHY 100

THEORIES OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE

INSTRUCTOR: ROB SMITH, BA, MA, PhD

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REQUIRED TEXT:

Pragmatism: A Reader in English Pragmatism, Daniel W. Smith (ed.), Cambridge University Press, 1996.

Mr. Knowledge and Mrs. Reality, Andrew Shadley, Random House Press, 1998.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to core problems and issues of both trying to define the concept of knowledge and how to attain it. We will examine the development of an alternative to traditional epistemology, namely pragmatism, and its application to science.

So-called philosophy of mind, that is, the study of the nature of the mind and its relation to the world, will also be considered.

The nature of science is also examined, with particular emphasis on the nature of scientific change.

In dealing with such questions our focus is not only theoretical philosophy, but also practical applications.