Phil 290O: The Post-Hume Debate about Causation in Scotland
Spring, 2022

Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30–3:05pm, Hum 1 400

Contact Information
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Course Requirements
Seminar participation. One in-class presentation (approximately 15 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for discussion). One final paper (approximately 10–20 pages), due Tuesday, June 7.

Readings
Tuesday, March 29: no reading, first class.

Thursday, March 31: Locke, Essay concerning Humane Understanding, 4.3.9–14; Hume, Enquiry concerning Human Understanding (1748), §§4, 5 and 7.

Tuesday, April 5: Thomas Reid (1710–1796), An Inquiry into the Human Mind on the Principles of Common Sense (1764), ch. II, §§8–9 (pp. 112–14); ch. V, §3 (pp. 121–2); ch. VI, §12, from “Before we answer this question” to “we can reach in the philosophy of minds” (p. 157); §24 (pp. 194–201). Essays on the Intellectual Powers of Man (1785), Essay II, ch. 6 (pp. 260–262); Essay VI, ch. 6, from “The second metaphysical principle” to the end of the chapter (pp. 455–61).
Thursday, April 7: Reid, *Essays on the Active Powers of the Human Mind* (1788), Essay I, ch.’s 1–6 (pp. 512–27); Essay VI, ch. 6 (pp. 603–8).

Tuesday, April 12: James Beattie (1735–1803), *An Essay on the Nature and Immutability of Truth, in Opposition to Sophistry and Scepticism* (1770), Part I, ch. 2, §5 (pp. 85–102); Part II, ch. 2, §3 beginning of the section through “back to the second and third paragraphs of this section” (pp. 261–75).

Thursday, April 14: Dugald Stewart (1753–1828), *Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind*, vol. I (1792), Part II, ch. 1, §2 (pp. 96–108) and Notes C and D (pp. 476–9); *Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind*, vol. II (1814), ch. 4, §1 (pp. 230–52).

Tuesday, April 19: Stewart, “Dissertation: A General View of the Progress of Metaphysical, Ethical, and Political Philosophy since the Revival of Letters,” Part II (1821), §8, from “The bias of Mr. Hume’s mind to scepticism” to “the first fruits of his metaphysical studies” (pp. 440–56); *The Philosophy of the Active and Moral Powers* (1828), Part III, ch. 2, §1, through the end of n. 2 beginning on p. 27 and ending on p. 28 (pp. 12–28).

Thursday, April 21: Thomas Brown (1778–1820), *Inquiry into the Relation of Cause and Effect* (in this form, 1818), Part I, §§1–2 (pp. 7–31), and Notes A–C (pp. 387–93).

Tuesday, April 26: Brown, *Inquiry*, Part I, beginning of §3 (through “when the will had been immediately antecedent?”), end of §3 (from “The theory of Power, then”), beginning of §4 (through “grave expositions of philosophic truth”) (pp. 32–8, 53–70).

Thursday, April 28: Brown, *Inquiry*, Part I, §5 (pp. 77–103), Note D (pp. 393–4), and Notes G and H (pp. 433–6).


Thursday, May 19: Mary Shepherd (1777–1847), *Essay upon the Relation of Cause and Effect* (1824), Preface and ch. 1 (pp. 1–26).

Tuesday, May 24: Shepherd, *Essay*, ch. 2 (pp. 27–98).


Thursday, June 2: Shepherd, *Essays*, Part II, essay 6 and 7 (pp. 296–313 and 314–324).

Tuesday, June 7: **Final paper due.**