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Week 1

→ the right way of thinking

Introduction: What is Philosophy?

Prerequisite links on Notion under: Philosophy

Lesson 1: Video 1

Philosophy is stepping back from one way of thinking and working out the right way of thinking.

Philosophy is related to all subjects.

Medieval Medicine: Tried to explain all diseases in 4 Humors: blood, black bile, flame, yellow bile. A disease is an imbalance of the 4 humors. We need to revise our way of thinking.

One way is to revise from inside and just thinking about the subject. Do we really understand what it means for a disease to be an imbalance of diff. humors? Challenge your way of thinking from inside; you don't have to be confronted by the world

Or from the outside: noticing this way of curing diseases isn't successful.

Quantum Physics discoveries show how ways of thinking needed to be changed.

CS & AI & the mind

Video 2: Philosophy: Difficult, Important & Everywhere

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Philosophy: activity of working in the right way in thinking about things. Philosophy rises everywhere. Continuously ask: Why? like kids. Require more reason, articulation & justification. The philosopher doesn't ask the questions, he needs to come up with answers. Philosophy: ~~is~~ fundamental characterized

but that's not true. If you're a brain surgeon you don't necessarily have to stop back and think, it would probably make you a worse surgeon because you're required to act on issues immediately.

Philosophy is difficult if you're continuously asked why.

Philosophical questions aren't necessarily big or important. Philosophical questioning is very important

Changing in thoughts related to genocide, discrimination, on slave people

Makes us question whether our practices are okay... like farming, taking care of env.

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→ Math Logic Book

Lesson 2 | Video 1

Philosophy: How we do it?
Argument

syllogism

Premises in support of conclusion

(P) They have good hot dogs at the cinema
(Q) I like hot dogs
∴ I should go to the cinema.

Philosophy : Question the Arg.

Just because they have hot dogs at the cinema & I like them doesn't mean that I should go. Perhaps you wanna become vegan, lose weight, save money, Question the premises

Question the soundness of an argument,
Question : → truth of it's premises
→ Validity

What if free will?

P: The way the world was in the past controls how it is in the present & how it will be in the future

Q: Were part of the world just like everything around us.

r: We can't control how things were in the past or the way the past controls the present or future

∴ We don't control anything that happens in the world including all the things that we think & say and do.

has indeterminacy

Question the premises

p: Perhaps the past doesn't really fix the present & future

q: Perhaps we're not part of the world.

r: Perhaps we can control

∴ Question the conclusion

Philosophy of night

The conclusion doesn't follow from the premises because there are 2 different senses of control in play.

Sense of control we have over our action

Sense of control in the premise

Philosophy is lost if clearly stated args lead to a clearly stated conclusion, sometimes how we think is too rich & complex for us to be able to do that.

Hilary Putnam quote :

Philosophy needs vision & argument, something disappointing ...

- Philosophy screenshot 1

Nyles Burnyeat, David Hume

What does it mean to have free control over our actions?

Video 02

Is there a 'right way' to think about things?

Ad Calton Cemetery, David Hume monument

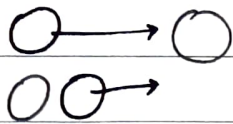
David Hume thought that a skeptical attitude to find the truth about the world is completely appropriate

Experiencing the world as causally connected events (one thing causing another to happen). Hume argued causation was something that we could never really know to be a property of the world in itself but rather something extra that our mind is prone to add to the impressions we get of the world

like 2 billiard balls knocking into

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each other



We are prone to experience one ball rolling into the second ball causing it to roll off. Hume suggested all we really experience is a series of impressions of billiard balls at various times & places. We never experience anything extra that connects those two billiard balls that we could call causation.

We're not justified in thinking that there is some self that connects our experiences, thoughts & beliefs. Because all we really ever experience about us ^{and our mind} is our thoughts, experiences & belief.

Hume argued we weren't entitled on the basis of our experience to believe in an omnipotent & omniscient god.

The observation of human blindness is the result of all philosophy and meets us at every turn despite our endeavours to elude or avoid it.

Hume held a skeptical about the power of philosophy to put us in

Norman Camp Smith: Critique of Pure Reason

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touch with how the world is

This skepticism is what awoke Immanuel Kant from his dogmatic slumbers. Before reading Hume, Kant thought philosophy could put us in touch with the world but in his book after reading Hume he tried to prove the fact that philosophy does in fact put us in touch with the world. He tried to show that the idea of the world doesn't correspond to rules that govern our mind are just nonsensical. Hume is right that we can't avoid certain ways of experiencing the world. We have to experience the world as laid out in space, as unfolding over time and as causally connected events. Kant differed from Hume in saying that there weren't just ~~thought~~ facts about how our mind worked but also the way that the world had to work. He thought there were facts about what it was for there to be a world at all.

Kant argued that if we try to imagine a world that doesn't have these features of space & time & causality then we have no reason to think of what we're imagining.

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at a world at all. We just can't get a grip on what it would mean for a world to lack these things.

Kant says that the rules that govern the way the ^{mind} world has to work are also the rule that govern the working of the world.