

Titolo: **Epistemology. A priori knowledge, definitions, and mathematical knowledge.**

Docente: Andrea Sereni

Ore: 10

Crediti: 2

Tipologia di corso: A (base)

Description

After introducing the basic concepts of analytic epistemology, we will explore some essential features of a priori knowledge, and investigate how mathematical and logical knowledge can be obtained. The role of definitions in the acquisition of such kinds of knowledge will be emphasized, and a crucial kind of definitions – definitions by abstraction – will be discussed, also in their relation with metaphysical notions such as grounding.

Final Themes

- *Sources and kinds of knowledge*
- *The traditional JTB definition of knowledge: origins and main features*
- *Gettier counterexamples to the JTB definition and alternative definitions of knowledge*
- *The causal theory of knowledge*
- *Essential problems for mathematical knowledge and the Integration Challenge*
- *Benacerraf's Dilemma*
- *Non-conservative responses to Benacerraf's Dilemma (main features and examples)*
- *Non-conservative responses to Benacerraf's Dilemma (main features and examples)*
- *Frege's Logicism and Neo-Logicism (especially the role of Hume's Principle)*

Final readings

- Pritchard, D. (2018), *What is This Thing Called Knowledge?*, Routledge; Chapter 1, 3.
- Linnebo, Ø. (2018), *Philosophy of Mathematics*, Princeton University Press, Chapters I-II.
- Panza, M., Sereni, A. (2013), *Plato's Problem. An Introduction to Mathematical Platonism*, §§ 3.2-3.3.

Further optional readings:

- Benacerraf, P. (1973), "Mathematical Truth".
- Panza, M., Sereni, A. (2013), *Plato's Problem. An Introduction to Mathematical Platonism*, § 2.1 and § 5.1
- Gettier, E. (1963), "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?"; Analysis: <http://www-bcf.usc.edu/~kleinsch/Gettier.pdf>
- Benacerraf, P. (1973), "Mathematical Truth," *The Journal of Philosophy* 70:19, 1973, pp. 661-679, anche in Benacerraf e Putnam (1964), pp. 403-420
- Hale, B., Wright, C., (2002), "Benacerraf's Dilemma Revisited", *European Journal of Philosophy*,

Calendar:

January 15th, 14-17

January 22, 14-17

January 23, 11-13 & 14-16