Autumn 2023 FIL 217 / FIL 317: Wittgenstein Studies

Tuesdays 10:15-12:00, SPL, room 210

Weeks 34-44 (August 22 – October 31)

Teachers: Alois Pichler (AP), Simo Säätelä (SS)

❖ General course descriptions and reading list:
  • http://www.uib.no/en/course/FIL217
  • http://www.uib.no/en/course/FIL317
❖ Requirements:
  • Passing grade for mid-term home assignment 6.-13.10.2023
  • Passing grade for assignment paper
    (deadline for submission of assignment paper: 17.11.2023, 13:00)

1) Week 34-SS: Introduction to the course; Background of the Tractatus in Frege and Russell [Child ch. 2-3]

2) Week 35-SS: Background of the Tractatus in Frege and Russell (cont.); Logic; The picture theory [Child ch. 2-3]

3) Week 36-AP: The elementary proposition; The molecular proposition; Truth functions; The colour exclusion problem; Nonsense and other problems with the Tractatus [Child ch. 2-3]

4) Week 37-AP: From the Tractatus to the later philosophy; The Investigations read in contrast to and in the light of the Tractatus; "Formfragen"; Behaving and acting [Child ch. 4-5]

5) Week 38-AP: Language game; Language game method; Form of life; Mistakes of the "Augustinian picture" [Child ch. 4-5]

6) Week 39-AP: Family resemblance; Übersichtliche Darstellung; Grammar; Rules and Rule-following [Child ch. 4-5]

7) Week 40-SS: The private language argument [Child ch. 6]

8) Week 42-SS: Privacy [Child ch. 6]

9) Week 43-SS: Privacy (cont.); Philosophy of mathematics [Säätelä 2011]

10) Week 44-AP: Certainty; Cultural relativism?; Philosophy [Child ch. 7, Glock 1991, Stern 2006]

References:

- William Child (2011): Wittgenstein. London: Routledge.
- Hans-Johann Glock (1991): "Philosophical Investigations section 128: 'theses in philosophy' and undogmatic procedure". In: R. L. Arrington and H.-J- Glock (eds.): Wittgenstein´s Philosophical Investigations: Text and context. London: Routledge. pp. 69-88.
- Simo Säätelä (2011): "From Logical Method to 'Messing About': Wittgenstein on 'Open Problems' in Mathematics". In: Oskari Kuusela, Marie McGinn (eds.): The Oxford Handbook of Wittgenstein. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- David G. Stern (2006): "How many Wittgensteins?" In: A. Pichler and S. Säätelä (eds.): Wittgenstein: The Philosopher and His Works. Heusenstamm: ontos. pp. 205-229. [http://www.wittgensteinrepository.org/ojs/index.php/agora-ontos/issue/view/142]