

Unit-I

Philosophy

Any regionalized philosophy must make some effort to identify what it wants to think about, its subject matter.

"What is Science?" is a key question for philosophy

of Science.

"What is religion?" is a key issue in philosophy of religion.

Such questions are some times called demarcation problems.

Philosophy of engineering, like wise must at some point seek to identify engineering and mark it off from near neighbors, i.e other dimensions of experience from which it can be distinguished.

Engineering

"Engineering covers many different types of activity. Engineers make things, they make things work and they make things work better".

- British Royal Academy of Engineering

Interesting, few national engineering academics - not even the International Council of Academics of Engineering and Technological Sciences provide a definition of engineering.

- Expanding on the Royal Academy description, a scholarly apologia for engineering authored by two engineers and a Sociologist argues at length that engineering is making of "ingenious devices" & is Coeval with origin of the human Species.

In its earliest form, engineering involved the making of Stone tools & other aircrafts to aid in human Survival.

During the ensuing millennia, the manufacture of ingenious devices expanded and contributed to the shaping of civilizations to the establishment of human institutions & to the enhancement of Standards of living.

Now in the 21st Century, engineering may be viewed as a profession which involves Creative thoughts and skilled actions related to conceptualizing, planning, designing, developing, making, testing, implementing, using, improving & disposing of a variety of devices, invariably Seeking to meet a perceived Societal Interest.

→ Nuclear Engineer & philosopher (Billy V. Koen)

According to Koen, engineering is defined by its method which is the use of heuristic to cause the best change in a poorly understood situation with in the available resources.