

Week 7.5: Part I Conclusion and Pascal

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Blaise Pasca

Blaise Pasca Biography Film

Week 7.5: Part I Conclusion (and Pascal)

Takaharu Oda, PhD (odat@tcd.ie)

Southern University of Science and Technology SS149 (社会科学中心), Spring 2024

Early Modern Western Philosophy (17th-18th Centuries) 近代西方哲学(十七-十八世纪)



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Weekly Qι

art I: C17th 1 Weekly Quiz

Blaise Pascal Biography Film

2 Part I: 17th-Century Philosophy Conclusion

- 3 Film: Blaise Pascal
 - Biography
 - Film



Weekly Quiz

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Weekly Qu

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1 Weekly Quiz

2 Part I: 17th-Century Philosophy Conclusion

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A Quiz from the Last Week

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Weekly Quiz

Part I: C17

Blaise Pasca Biography Film Quiz 7: In (propositional/predicate) logic, what does the symbol \neg stand for?

- Negation ['not']
- ② Disjunction ['or']
- Conjunction ['and']
- 4 Implication or entailment

This is not related to your final grade, but intended to observe your understanding of the last class.



A Quiz from the Last Week

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Weekly Quiz

Blaise Pascal

Quiz 7: In (propositional/predicate) logic, what does the symbol \neg stand for?

- Negation ['not'] \neg / \sim (Check Locke's argument for thinking body that Astell rejects [Disjunctive Syllogism], the Lecture 1 slide 'vocabulary', etc.)
- ② Disjunction ['or'] ∨
- **6** Conjunction ['and'] ∧ / ⋅
- 4 Implication or entailment ['if ..., then ...'] \supset / \rightarrow

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Part I: 17th-Century Philosophy Conclusion

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Weekly Qui

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Part I: C17t

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- What can we know and how can we know it?
- What is the mind and how is it related to the body?
- What is the nature of body?
 - Is it purely passive or also somehow active?
 - Are all of its perceived qualities equally real/objective?
- What kinds of causal relations could possibly exist in the world?
- Do reason and science support religion or contradict it?



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Film: Blaise Pascal

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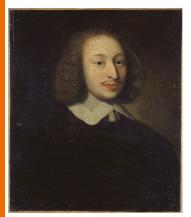
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Weekly Qu

Conclusion

Biographical Overview



<u>Le musée Carnavalet – Paris</u> (Portrait approx. 1650)



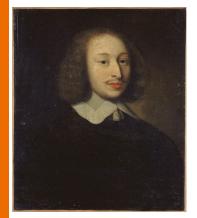
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Weekly Quiz

Blaise Pasca Biography Film

Biographical Overview



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- 1631 Moves to Paris, educated by his father: a child prodigy in mathematics.
- **1642** *Pascaline(s)*: Pascal's arithmetic calculators; eight of them survive.
- **1651** Affected by his younger sister Jacquline's conversion to **Jansenism**.
- 1656–57 Lettres provinciales (defence of the Jansenist Antoine Arnauld at Port-Royal-des-Champs): placed on the Church's prohibiting *Index* in 1657, burnt by order of Louis XIV in 1660.
- 1661 The monastery at Port-Royal forbidden to accept novices, heralding its later dissolution (the Jesuits' attack).
- **19 August 1662** Dies in Paris: 39yo.
- 1670 Pensées [Thoughts] (incomplete)

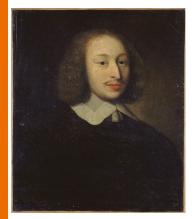


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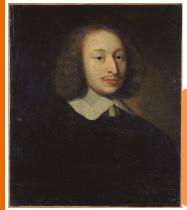
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The heresy of Jansenism within Catholicism

- After the Dutch theologian Jansen
- Influence of Calvinism (esp. original sin)
- Augustinian doctrine of efficacious grace in place of human free will: viz. moral determinism (pessimism)

later dissolution (the Jesuits attack).

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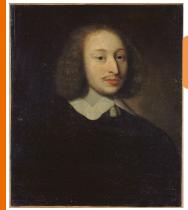
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La logique, ou l'art de penser (aka **Port-Royal Logic**) by Arnauld and Nicole (1662) – Cartesianism and Aristotelian logic

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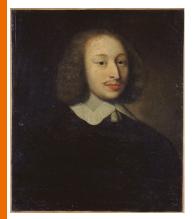
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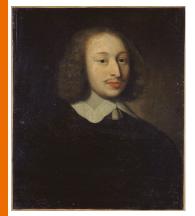
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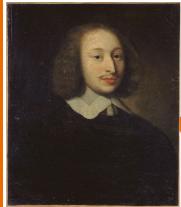
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Famous points

- 'A human being is only a reed, the weakest in nature, but he is a thinking reed.' (§231: 人是一根會思考的蘆葦)
- Pascal's wager (§680) pragmatic belief (betting) in God, instead of disbelieving.
 Cf. Hájek (2018) 'The (in)validity of ...'
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Téléfilm par Roberto Rossellini

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Blaise Pascal (1972)