

Hume's *Enquiry*

- Wants us to burn books, specifically scholastic metaphysics

Aims of the Enquiry

- Articulate the nature of human understanding—i.e. the nature and character of human cognitive powers
- Pessimistic skepticism concerning the nature and reach of human cognitive powers, especially the intellect (understanding and reason)

Hume's Mind

- Wants to be the “Newton of the mind”

Hume's empiricism

Two Kinds of Perception

1. Impressions - more vivid and forceful
2. Ideas - less vivid and forceful
3. Where “force and vivacity” are understood in broadly phenomenological/phenomenal terms
4. Ideas seem also to be distinguished from impressions by virtue of their origin/etiology: they are brought about via some sort of reflection or awareness of impressions

The Copy Principle

- All our ideas are copies of impressions
- Condition on meaning – we can only think about what we have had an impression of, or what can be derived from what we have had an impression of
- Hume will ultimately criticize metaphysics based on its failure to satisfy the copy principle

The Missing Shade of Blue

- Possible counterexample to the copy principle?
- Denies that it is a genuine problem for the principle