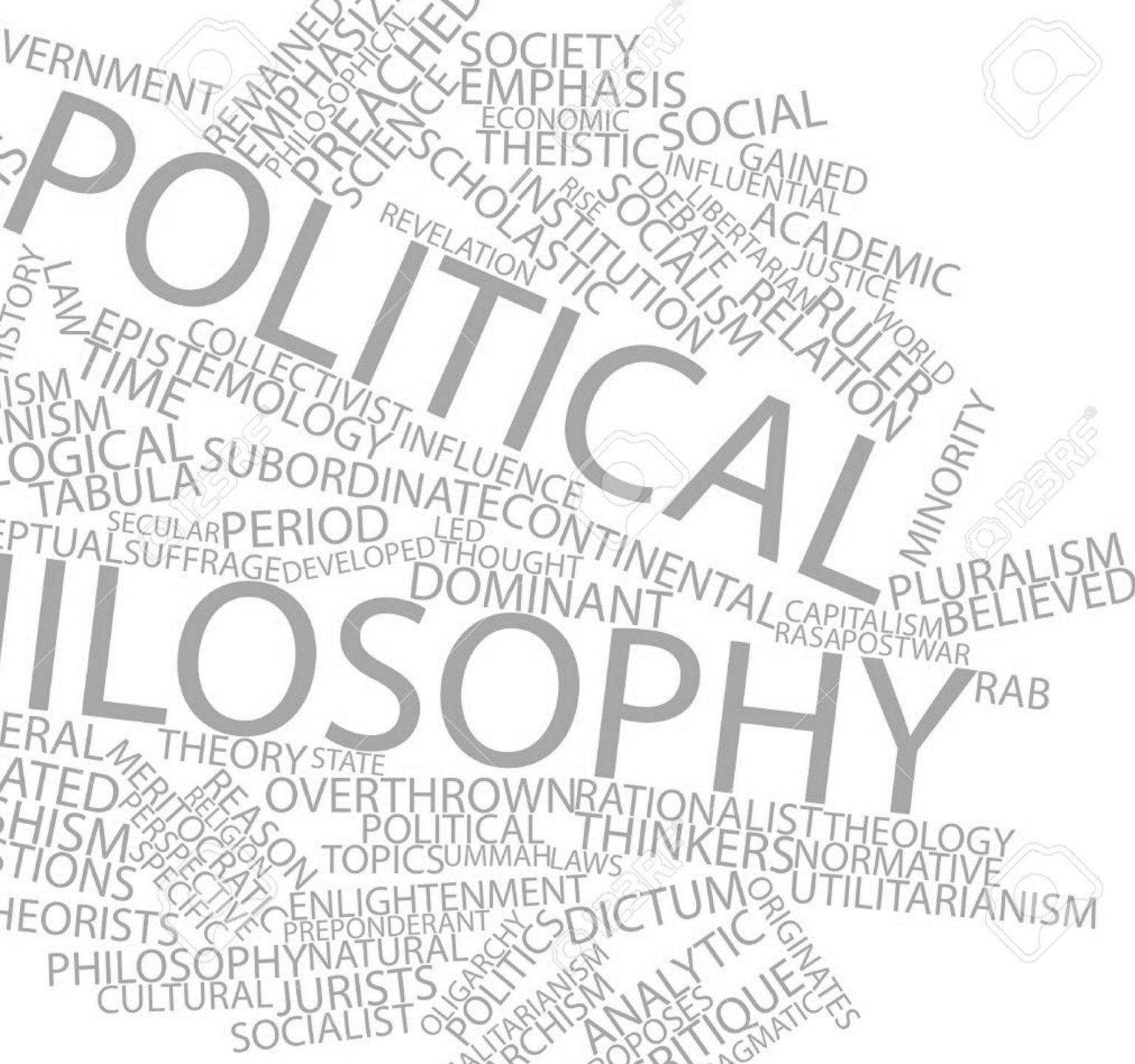




# British Philosophy

+ its political aspects  
+ a little bit more

Session#10  
David Hume #1





David Hume  
Scottish philosopher  
1711-1776



- *A Kind of History of My Life*
- *A Treatise of Human Nature: Being an Attempt to introduce the experimental Method of Reasoning into Moral Subjects*
- *An Abstract of a Book lately Published: Entitled A Treatise of Human Nature*
- *Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary*
- *A Letter from a Gentleman to His Friend in Edinburgh*
- *Of Essay Writing*
- ***An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding.***
- *An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals.*
- ***Political Discourses***
- *Four Dissertations*
- *The History of England*
- *Sister Peg*
- *My Own Life*
- *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*



## Causality vs. Synchronicity

General concepts

Self, identity



Negatively impressed by continental:

- René Descartes
- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz
- Samuel Clarke(British)
- Nicolas Malebranche



## Impressions & Ideas

### Impressions:

- Sensational perceptions,
- Reflections,

### Perceptions:

- Sensations,
- Passions,
- Emotions,

### Ideas:

- Memory,
- Imagination,

### Ideas:

- Simple,
- Combinations,

- Ideas are originated in impressions: *impressions > simple ideas > complicated ideas*.
- Human mind is totally passive in forming the impressions,
- Imagination is not impossible, unless it is absolutely (logically) paradoxical.



### Association:

- Resemblance, (همانندی)
- Contiguity, (مجاورت)
- Causation, (علیت)

### Creativity:

Brown triangle & Orange circle > Orange triangle.

General ideas: in language or experience?

"human", "triangle"...? It should include any example but be no example.

Can we distinguish the color or shape of an orange from its existence?

Does a color exist by itself?

Feeling vs. thinking.

Perception vs. believe.

It differs that someone feels cold or think that the outside is cold.



## Knowledge and causality

- Know something: definitely true: a priori, the relation between the ideas,
- Proofs: something that have generally a basis and is more than probably corrects, post priori,
- Probability,

The believes about actual subjects are about the things we are witnessing now and not formerly;

- Past experiences vs. future experiences? Induction, lost ring,
- Homogeneity of the world: of the past and future,
- Statistics and probability,

Experience of a cause -> *imagination, tradition and instinct*, -> Expectation of an effect







### Objects and subjects, unavoidable:

- ✓ Normal actual objects and “similar” impressions: dual existence,
- ✓ The only thing we have is the co-existence,
- ✓ We cannot even test the similarity,
- ✓ We don't have any argument that the impressions are the effect of the objects as causes,
- ✓ We don't like the separate impressions, we prefer unity, homogeneity and uniformity,





Thanks for your attention.

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