

SESSION THREE

RATIONALISM, DOUBT, AND SOLIPSISM

READING

Essential reading

Rene Descartes, *Meditations* (1641). (*Meditations* is a series of six short meditations. You should read them all.)

* The following website is an excellent resource for accessing the primary texts listed above: Jonathan F. Bennett, 'Some texts from Early Modern Philosophy', www.earlymoderntexts.com.

Recommended reading

G. E. Moore, 'Certainty', in Willis Doney (ed.), *Descartes: a collection of critical essays* (London and Melbourne: Macmillan, 1968). [See scanned text.] * This edited collection contains many interesting and useful papers on Descartes' arguments. The book is available as a hard copy from LRC, but the paper by Moore has been scanned and uploaded.

Anthony Kenny, *Descartes: a study of his philosophy* (Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 1995), 'Cartesian Doubt', ch.2. [See scanned text.]

Further reading

Rene Descartes, *Objections and Replies* (objections to the *Meditations*, and Descartes' replies) (1642). Accessible via www.earlymoderntexts.com.

Timothy Williamson, *Knowledge and its Limits* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002). Read the introduction and chapter 1. (Accessible as an e-book via LRC.)

Asher Moore, 'Rationalism, Empiricism and the A Priori', in *Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol.9, No.36 (Jul., 1959), pp.250-58. (Accessible via Jstor.)