

University of London B.A. Philosophy 2001-2
Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein
Term 1, wks 6-10
Russell

Reading List

(See also *The Study Guide* and the week-by-week breakdown of suggested reading for lectures on the overall lecture handout.)

Recommended Introductory texts

Grayling, A. C. (1996) *Russell*. Oxford: OUP. A clear introduction.

Sainsbury, R. M. (1979) *Russell*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. Slightly harder than Grayling, but provides clear, detailed discussion of Russell's views on a variety of topics.

Primary Texts

Russell, B. (1903) *The Principles of Mathematics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Especially chs. iv, v, for early views on naming and denoting.

———(1905) 'On Denoting' in *Logic and Knowledge: Essays 1901-1950*, ed. R. C. Marsh. London: Allan & Unwin. Essential reading for Russell's important, post *Principles* views on denoting and on the functioning of definite descriptions.

———(1908) 'Mathematical Logic as based on the Theory of Types', in *Logic and Knowledge*. A difficult paper in which Russell expounds his attempted

solution of some important paradoxes.

———(1912) *Problems of Philosophy*. London: Williams and Norgate. Reprinted in 1998, with a new introduction by John Skorupski. Oxford: Oxford Paperbacks. An excellent, short introduction to Russell's views on epistemology.

———(1913) *Theory of Knowledge: the 1913 Manuscript*. London: Routledge. Russell abandoned this work on epistemology in despair after criticism from Wittgenstein, and it has only recently been published.

———(1917) 'On Knowledge by Acquaintance and Knowledge by Description', in *Mysticism and Logic*, 2nd. ed., London: Allan & Unwin. Essential reading on Russell's epistemology and its bearing on his theory of meaning.

———(1918) 'The Philosophy of Logical Atomism', in *Logic and Knowledge*. Essential reading, especially lectures I-III.

———(1919) *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*. London: Allan & Unwin. Reprinted with a new introduction by John Slater, London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1993. Short, relatively informal presentation of Russell's logicist project.

Russell, B. and A. N. Whitehead (1910-13) *Principia Mathematica*, (2nd ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Especially the introduction, for a lucid account of Russell's logicist project.

Secondary texts

Ayer, A. J. (1972) *Russell*. London: Collins. Clear, but opinionated, introduction to Russell's philosophy.

Hylton, P. (1990) *Russell, Idealism and the Emergence of Analytic Philosophy*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Difficult, but rich and detailed, account of the development of Russell's philosophy from Idealist origins.

Makin, G. (2000) *The Metaphysicians of Meaning: Russell and Frege on Sense and Denotation*. London: Routledge. Interesting, but difficult and sometimes unorthodox, account of the relation between Russell and Frege, based around an attempt to explain Russell's criticism of Frege in 'On Denoting'.

Neale, S. (1990) *Descriptions*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press. An excellent defence of Russell's account of definite descriptions. See especially chapters 1, 2 for a very clear account of Russell's view and some of its motivations.

Pears, D. F. (1972) *Bertrand Russell and the British Tradition in Philosophy*. London: Fontana. Interesting attempt to relate Russell's work to that of earlier British philosophers, especially Hume.

Collections of Articles

Klemke, E (ed.) (1970) *Essays on Bertrand Russell*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Savage, C. Wade and C. Anthony Anderson (eds.) (1989) *Rereading Russell: Essays in Bertrand Russell's Metaphysics and Epistemology*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Irvine, A. D. and G. A. Wedeking (eds.) (1993) *Russell and Analytic Philosophy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Irvine, A. D. (ed.) (1999) *Bertrand Russell: Critical Assessments*. London: Routledge.

Guy Longworth
g.longworth@bbk.ac.uk