



How Do We Know?: An Introduction to Epistemology
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James K. Dew Jr. (PhD, Southeastern Baptist) is associate professor of the history of ideas and philosophy and dean of the College at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has previously published *Science & Theology: An Assessment of Alister McGrath's Critical Realist Perspective*.

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Who Says Epistemology is Confusing?

Epistemology is defined as the study of the origin, nature, and limits of human knowledge. But what exactly does this mean? It's something that philosophers deal with on a regular basis, but so often it's confused, misunderstood, and even avoided. Epistemology is often characterized as one of the most difficult fields in philosophy to understand and articulate, making readers hard-pressed to find books that explain it simply and effectively.

However, *How Do We Know?* by James K. Dew Jr. and Mark W. Foreman breaks the aspects of epistemology down into easily digestible parts that even those unfamiliar with the field can understand. "Epistemology is an important pursuit for all people, not just for intellectuals and philosophers," charge the authors, and thus this book has been written to appeal to all.

"Dew and Foreman's *How Do We Know?* is a remarkably clear and concise discussion of central issues in epistemology," praises Dr. James Spiegel of Taylor University. "They explain difficult concepts as simply as possible without compromising accuracy, and they provide helpful illustrations throughout to ensure that readers will not get bogged down in the thicket of technical terminology. Epistemology is a field that can be as forbidding as it is important, and Dew and Foreman have done a wonderful service by giving us such an accessible treatment of the subject. Christian readers will find the book especially useful, as it includes discussions of faith, divine revelation and other issues related to religious epistemology. . . . I highly recommend this text to anyone interested in epistemology as well as students of theology and philosophy of religion."

Dew and Foreman cover topics such as:

- antirealism
- belief coherence
- causality
- degrees of certainty
- types of evidence
- types of inferences
- justification
- sources of knowledge
- perception
- pragmatism
- revelation

And examine the work of philosophers such as:

- Thomas Aquinas
- Aristotle
- Francis Bacon
- René Descartes
- Edmund L. Gettier
- Immanuel Kant
- John Locke
- Lucretius
- Plato
- Socrates

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