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978-1-107-02491-5 - Kant's: Lectures on Anthropology: A Critical Guide

Edited by Alix Cohen

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## KANT'S *LECTURES ON ANTHROPOLOGY*

Kant's lectures on anthropology, which formed the basis of his *Anthropology from a Pragmatic Point of View* (1798), contain many observations on human nature, culture and psychology, and illuminate his distinctive approach to the human sciences. The essays in the present volume, written by an international team of leading Kant scholars, offer the first comprehensive scholarly assessment of these lectures, their philosophical importance, their evolution and their relation to Kant's critical philosophy. They explore a wide range of topics, including Kant's account of cognition, the senses, self-knowledge, freedom, passion, desire, morality, culture, education and cosmopolitanism. The volume will enrich current debates within Kantian scholarship as well as beyond, and will be of great interest to upper-level students and scholars of Kant, the history of anthropology, the philosophy of psychology and the social sciences.

ALIX COHEN is Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Edinburgh. She is the author of *Kant and the Human Sciences: Biology, Anthropology and History* (2009), and has published articles in journals including *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Kantian Review*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly* and *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*.

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## Preface

The idea for this volume grew out of conversations I had with Thomas Sturm, and in particular one that took place at the 11th International Kant Congress in Pisa in May 2010. We agreed that the publication of the *Lectures on Anthropology* in the German Academy edition of Kant's *Gesammelte Schriften* (1997) and the (then forthcoming and now published) translation of these *Lectures* in the series of the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant provided an opportune moment to take stock of their historical importance and philosophical relevance. Although unfortunately our original project did not come to fruition, it prompted the work on this volume, for which I am grateful.

This volume would not have been possible without the help of many people. First, I would like to thank Hilary Gaskin for helping me bring the project to completion – her constant support throughout the process is very much appreciated. I also want to express my gratitude to all the contributors for making my life much easier by providing fantastic contributions. Particular thanks go to Werner Stark, whose piece on the history of the *Lectures* was a welcome late addition to an already rich volume, to Joshua Mendelsohn, who went beyond the call of duty and spent his holidays translating this piece so that it could be included in time for publication, and to Jonathan Head for compiling a very thorough index.

I am also very grateful to the editors of the translations of Kant's *Lectures on Anthropology*, Robert Clewis, Robert Louden, G. Felicitas Munzel and Allen Wood, as well as Cambridge University Press, for sharing the early proofs of their work with the contributors to this volume. My thanks are also due to two anonymous external readers whose positive comments and feedback were of great assistance whilst assembling the contributions. Finally I would like to acknowledge a big debt to others at the Press,

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and in particular Rosemary Crawley and Gillian Dadd, for their help and understanding when inevitable delays emerged.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank Cain Todd for his ongoing faith in me despite evidence to the contrary, and Noa for her special brand of joyful support.

## Translations and abbreviations

Kant's works are cited in the body of the text according to the volume and page number in *Immanuel Kants Schriften*, Ausgabe der königlichen preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 1902–), abbreviated in the list below as “Ak.” Unless noted otherwise in their essays, authors use translations from the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant, series editors Paul Guyer and Allen W. Wood (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992–).

The following abbreviations are used to refer to specific works by Kant.

A	<i>Anthropologie in pragmatischer Hinsicht</i> (1798), Ak 7
AF	<i>Anthropology from a Pragmatic Standpoint</i> <i>Vorlesungen über Anthropologie</i> Friedländer (1775–6), Ak 25.1
AN	<i>Friedländer's Notes on Kant's Anthropology Lectures</i> <i>Allgemeine Naturgeschichte und Theorie des</i> <i>Himmels</i> (1755), Ak 2
	<i>Universal Natural History and Theory of the</i> <i>Heavens</i>
Bem	<i>Bemerkungen zu den “Beobachtungen über das</i> <i>Gefühl des Schönen und Erhabenen”</i> (1764–5), Ak 20
	<i>Remarks in the “Observations on the Feeling of the</i> <i>Beautiful and Sublime”</i>
Beo	<i>Beobachtungen über das Gefühl des Schönen und</i> <i>Erhabenen</i> (1764), Ak 2
	<i>Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and</i> <i>Sublime</i>
C	<i>Briefe</i> , Ak 10–13
	<i>Correspondence</i>

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ED	<i>Das Ende aller Dinge</i> (1794), Ak 8 <i>The End of All Things</i>
EF	<i>Zum ewigen Frieden: Ein philosophischer Entwurf</i> (1795), Ak 8 <i>Toward Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Project</i>
Em	<i>Der einzig mögliche Beweisgrund zu einer</i> <i>Demonstration des Dasein Gottes</i> (1763), Ak 2 <i>The Only Possible Argument in Support of a</i> <i>Demonstration of the Existence of God</i>
G	<i>Grundlegung der Metaphysik der Sitten</i> (1785), Ak 4 <i>Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals</i>
Idea	<i>Idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in</i> <i>weltbürgerlicher Absicht</i> (1784), Ak 8 <i>Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan</i> <i>Aim</i>
KpV	<i>Kritik der praktischen Vernunft</i> (1788), Ak 5 <i>Critique of Practical Reason</i>
KrV	<i>Kritik der reinen Vernunft</i> (1781, 1787) <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>
KU	<i>Kritik der Urteilskraft</i> (1790), Ak 5 <i>Critique of the Power of Judgment</i>
Log	<i>Logik</i> (1800), Ak 9 <i>Jäsche Logic</i>
MA	<i>Mutmaßlicher Anfang der Menschengeschichte</i> (1786), Ak 8 <i>Conjectural Beginning of Human History</i>
MAN	<i>Metaphysische Anfangsgründe der Naturwissenschaft</i> (1786), Ak 4 <i>Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science</i>
MS	<i>Metaphysik der Sitten</i> (1797–98), Ak 6 <i>Metaphysics of Morals</i>
N	<i>Nachricht von der Einrichtung seiner Vorlesung in</i> <i>dem Winterhalbenjahre 1765–1766</i> (1765), Ak 2 <i>Mr. Immanuel Kant's Announcement of the</i> <i>Programme of His Lectures for the Winter Semester</i> <i>1765–6</i>
PhilEnz	<i>Philosophische Enzyklopädie</i> , Ak 29 <i>Philosophical Encyclopedia</i> (1781–2)
PND	<i>Principiorum primorum cognitionis metaphysicae</i> <i>nova dilucidatio</i> (1755), Ak 1

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	<i>A New Elucidation of the First Principles of Metaphysical Cognition</i>
PPH	<i>Praktische Philosophie Herder</i> (1762–4), Ak 27.1 <i>J. G. Herder's Notes on Kant's Practical Philosophy Lectures</i>
Prol	<i>Prolegomena zu einer jeden künftigen Metaphysik</i> <i>Prolegomena to any Future Metaphysics</i> (1783), Ak 04
R	<i>Religion innerhalb der Grenzen der bloßen Vernunft</i> (1793–4), Ak 6 <i>Religion within the Boundaries of Mere Reason</i>
Ref	<i>Reflexionen</i> , Ak 14–23 References here are to the number of the Reflection and then to the volume and the page of the Akademie edition
RezMoscati	<i>Recension von Moscat's Schrift: Von dem körperlichen wesentlichen Unterschiede zwischen der Structur der Thiere und Menschen</i> (1771), Ak 2 Review of Moscati's work <i>Of the Corporeal Essential Differences between the Structure of Animals and Humans</i>
RH	<i>Recensionen von J. G. Herders Ideen zur Philosophie der Geschichte der Menschheit</i> (1785), Ak 8 <i>Review of J. G. Herder's Ideas for the Philosophy of the History of Humanity</i>
Ri	<i>Bemerkungen in den "Beobachtungen über das Gefühl des Schönen und Erhabenen"</i> (1764–5), ed. M. Rischmüller (Felix Meiner, 1991) <i>Remarks on the "Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and Sublime"</i>
SF	<i>Der Streit der Fakultäten</i> (1798), Ak 7 <i>The Conflict of the Faculties</i>
SOS	<i>Aus Soemmerring über das Organ der Seele</i> (1796), Ak 12 <i>From Soemmerring's On the Organ of the Soul</i>
TP	<i>Über den Gemeinspruch: Das mag in der Theorie richtig sein, taugt aber nicht für die Praxis</i> (1793), Ak 8 <i>On the Common Saying: That May Be True in Theory, But It Is of No Use in Practice</i>

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xvi	<i>List of translations and abbreviations</i>
UD	<i>Untersuchung über die Deutlichkeit der Grundsätze der natürlichen Theologie und der Moral</i> (1764), Ak 2 <i>Inquiry Concerning the Distinctness of the Principles of Natural Theology and Morality</i>
ÜGTP	<i>Über den Gebrauch teleologischer Principien in der Philosophie</i> (1788), Ak 8 <i>On the Use of Teleological Principles in Philosophy</i>
VA-name	<i>Vorlesungen über Anthropologie</i> , followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 25 <i>Lectures on Anthropology</i>
VL-name	<i>Vorlesungen über Logik</i> , followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 24 <i>Lectures on Logic</i>
VM-name	<i>Vorlesungen über Metaphysik</i> , followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 28, 29 <i>Lectures on Metaphysics</i>
VMo-name	<i>Vorlesungen über Moralphilosophie</i> , followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 27, 29 <i>Lectures on Moral Philosophy</i>
VNR-Feyerabend	<i>Naturrecht Feyerabend</i> (1784), Ak 27 <i>Kant's Lectures on Natural Right</i>
VP	<i>Über Pädagogik</i> (1803), Ak 9 <i>Lectures on Pedagogy</i>
V-PG	<i>Vorlesungen über physische Geographie</i> , Ak 26 <i>Lectures on Physical Geography</i>
VvRM	<i>Von den verschiedenen Racen der Menschen</i> (1775), Ak 2 <i>Of the Different Races of Human Beings</i>
WA	<i>Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung?</i> (1784), Ak 8 <i>An Answer to the Question: What Is Enlightenment?</i>