**Epistemological Turn**

1) How is knowledge possible given what the world is like?

How is knowledge possible given what we are like?

2) Descartes Innate Ideas

a) Rationalism: Through unaided reason we come to know what the world is like.

b) Empiricism: Our knowledge comes solely from experience.

3) Why empiricism? What is the social context?

4) Empiricism and its consequences.

5) Hume’s philosophy grew out of two strands. One was a deep interest in skepticism and an extreme doubt that philosophers were capable of discovering the truth about anything. Second, a conviction that what was needed to uncover what knowledge, if any, we are capable of was in inquiry into “the science of man.”

6) Hume and causality.

7) Key questions: a) Why do we say that it is necessary that everything whose existence has a beginning should also have a cause? b) Why conclude that some particular causes must necessarily have a particular effect?

7) The uniformity of nature.

8) Necessity exists only in the human mind.