



Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem

From University Of Chicago Press

Download now

Read Online ➔

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press

What sets the practice of rigorously tested, sound science apart from pseudoscience? In this volume, the contributors seek to answer this question, known to philosophers of science as “the demarcation problem.” This issue has a long history in philosophy, stretching as far back as the early twentieth century and the work of Karl Popper. But by the late 1980s, scholars in the field began to treat the demarcation problem as impossible to solve and futile to ponder. However, the essays that Massimo Pigliucci and Maarten Boudry have assembled in this volume make a rousing case for the unequivocal importance of reflecting on the separation between pseudoscience and sound science.

Moreover, the demarcation problem is not a purely theoretical dilemma of mere academic interest: it affects parents’ decisions to vaccinate children and governments’ willingness to adopt policies that prevent climate change. Pseudoscience often mimics science, using the superficial language and trappings of actual scientific research to seem more respectable. Even a well-informed public can be taken in by such questionable theories dressed up as science. Pseudoscientific beliefs compete with sound science on the health pages of newspapers for media coverage and in laboratories for research funding. Now more than ever the ability to separate genuine scientific findings from spurious ones is vital, and *The Philosophy of Pseudoscience* provides ground for philosophers, sociologists, historians, and laypeople to make decisions about what science is or isn’t.

↓ [Download Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Dem ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the D ...pdf](#)

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem

From University Of Chicago Press

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press

What sets the practice of rigorously tested, sound science apart from pseudoscience? In this volume, the contributors seek to answer this question, known to philosophers of science as “the demarcation problem.” This issue has a long history in philosophy, stretching as far back as the early twentieth century and the work of Karl Popper. But by the late 1980s, scholars in the field began to treat the demarcation problem as impossible to solve and futile to ponder. However, the essays that Massimo Pigliucci and Maarten Boudry have assembled in this volume make a rousing case for the unequivocal importance of reflecting on the separation between pseudoscience and sound science.

Moreover, the demarcation problem is not a purely theoretical dilemma of mere academic interest: it affects parents’ decisions to vaccinate children and governments’ willingness to adopt policies that prevent climate change. Pseudoscience often mimics science, using the superficial language and trappings of actual scientific research to seem more respectable. Even a well-informed public can be taken in by such questionable theories dressed up as science. Pseudoscientific beliefs compete with sound science on the health pages of newspapers for media coverage and in laboratories for research funding. Now more than ever the ability to separate genuine scientific findings from spurious ones is vital, and *The Philosophy of Pseudoscience* provides ground for philosophers, sociologists, historians, and laypeople to make decisions about what science is or isn’t.

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press Bibliography

- Rank: #584765 in Books
- Published on: 2013-08-16
- Released on: 2013-08-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.40" w x 6.00" l, 1.40 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 480 pages

 [Download Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Dem ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the D ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

“The problem of demarcation—distinguishing credible science from pseudoscience—is a crucial one, but one that has generally been neglected in recent philosophy of science. It is the issue that underlies such topical debates as that between evolutionists and creationists or intelligent design theorists, for example. This volume does a great service by bringing an impressive range of leading philosophers of science from a wide variety of perspectives to reconsider the issue. It is much to be hoped that its publication will spark a revival of interest in this vital issue.”

(John Dupre *University of Exeter*)

“*Philosophy of Pseudoscience* is a remarkable contribution to one of the most vexing problems in science: the ‘demarcation’ problem, or how to distinguish science from nonscience. The well-designed diversity of topics and the collective breadth of knowledge of the authors make this book the most comprehensive and authoritative treatise on a majority of the traditional and current demarcation issues. . . . You have a jewel in your hands.”

(Francisco J. Ayala *University of California, Irvine*)

"A manual to overcome our natural cognitive biases."

(*Corriere della Sera (Italy)*)

“If the philosophical problem of demarcating science from pseudoscience has a stale reputation, this book is a revitalizing gust of fresh air. Philosophers Pigliucci and Boudry assemble 23 essays that challenge Larry Laudan’s famous 1983 proclamation of the demarcation problem’s demise. Renewed attention to the philosophical questions that pseudoscience raises mirrors an uptick in interest in pseudoscience among historians, as exemplified by Michael Gordin’s *The Pseudoscience Wars*. Complementing such work, these essays bring focused attention to the practice and historical development of science. . . . A superb introduction to foundational questions that every philosophy student should confront. . . . Accessibly written . . . intellectually adventurous. . . . Essential.”

(J. D. Martin, *University of Minnesota Choice*)

“In Gary Larson’s cartoon ‘Scientist Hell,’ a smirking devil ushers an apprehensive man (beard, spectacles, white lab coat) into a room of nattering enthusiasts. The sign on the door reads, ‘Psychics, Astrologists & Mediums Eternal Discussion Group.’ If a similar room awaits philosophers, the present volume might come in handy.”

(Martin Curd, *Purdue University Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*)

About the Author

Massimo Pigliucci is professor of philosophy at the City University of New York. He has written many books, including *Nonsense on Stilts: How to Tell Science from Bunk* and, most recently, *Answers for Aristotle: How Science and Philosophy Can Lead Us to a More Meaningful Life*. Maarten Boudry is a postdoctoral fellow of the Flemish Fund for Scientific Research at Ghent University and wrote a dissertation on pseudoscience, *Here Be Dragons: Exploring the Hinterland of Science*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Matthew Williams:

In other case, little persons like to read book Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important some sort of book Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem. You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can realize everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you will be known. About simple issue until wonderful thing you could know that. In this era, we can open a book or perhaps searching by internet system. It is called e-book. You can utilize it when you feel bored stiff to go to the library. Let's examine.

Tara Huber:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day every day to reading a guide. The book Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

Carolyn Hoar:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you personally is Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem this book consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The words styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book suitable all of you.

Maurice Conner:

E-book is one of source of understanding. We can add our knowledge from it. Not only for students but native or citizen have to have book to know the revise information of year to be able to year. As we know those guides have many advantages. Beside all of us add our knowledge, may also bring us to around the world. By book Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem we can take more

advantage. Don't that you be creative people? To be creative person must choose to read a book. Merely choose the best book that appropriate with your aim. Don't become doubt to change your life with that book
Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem. You can more desirable than now.

**Download and Read Online Philosophy of Pseudoscience:
Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of
Chicago Press #FGCS2MR41O3**

Read Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press for online ebook

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press books to read online.

Online Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press ebook PDF download

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press Doc

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press Mobipocket

Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press EPub

FGCS2MR41O3: Philosophy of Pseudoscience: Reconsidering the Demarcation Problem From University Of Chicago Press