Nominalism

Nominalism [Lat. nominale, from nomen, a name]; Ger. Nominalismus; Fr. nominalisme, Rationalismus; Ital. nominalismo. The doctrine that universals have no objective existence or validity; in its extreme form, that they are only names or (more precisely) words, without any material reality, and that the creation of language for purposes of convenience constitutes reality. See Realism (1) for full account and history.

Nomology [Gr. nómo, law, + logos, doctrine; for equivalents see the next topic]. The science which investigates laws, as general psychology and general physics, as distinguishing from classificatory and explanatory science. Hamilton says, 'We have a science which we may call the psychology of mind—nomological psychology' (Lects. on Met., viii.)

Nomological [in law]; Ger. Nomologisch, Gesetzeslehre; Ital. nomologico; Fr. nomologique; Jural science; the science of the conformity of human actions to rules of conduct prescribed by law. 'Ethics is the science mainly of duties, while nomology looks rather to the definition and preservation of rights' (Holland, Jurisprudence, chap. iii., 112). The rules of conduct, with which it is concerned, are both those prescribed by the current standards of morality, and those of legislation (ibid., 266). Smith’s Right and Law, 91.)

Non-being

Non-being; Ger. Nicht-existenz, Nichts (Nothing); Fr. non-existence (absence); Ital. non-esistenza. Literally, just the absence or negation of being; but in accordance with the Greek tendency to give negation (anomia) an objective meaning to all categories of thought, non-being (or, as it is often termed, non-existence) was assumed as an existence until it became an object of dispute among philosophers as to whether non-being is as real as being.

The Eleatics (Peripatetics, 470 b.c.), who identified it with empty space, holding that everything must be full (or that all is in), denied its existence. The Atomists, however, conceived of it as a space for their discrete, imperishable, and indestructible particles to move in, asserted that non-being (the Void, 

Non-compos mentis

Non-compos mentis [Lat.]; Ger. nicht-verstandig; Fr. incapable, non-composé; Ital. non-sensato; non-composito; incapable through mental incapacity or disease of conducting one’s affairs; usually employed in a technical or legal sense; or insane.

Non-conditioned [Fr. non-conditionné]; Ger. nicht-gebunden; non-conditionné; incapable of being conditioned or affected by the condition of another.

Non-existence

Non-existence; the absence of existence or the non-conditioned nature of an object, considered as an absence or not-being. non-existence is as real as being.

Non-falsifiability

Non-falsifiability [Lat. for ‘it does not follow’]. A term which belongs to the grammar of the universe. The universe is not to be understood as a logical proposition or a scientific constant. It is not a conclusion, but a premise.

Non-stable

Non-stable [Lat. for ‘it does not follow’]. A term which belongs to the grammar of the universe. The universe is not to be understood as a logical proposition or a scientific constant. It is not a conclusion, but a premise.

Non-quantitative

Non-quantitative [Lat. for ‘it does not follow’]. A term which belongs to the grammar of the universe. The universe is not to be understood as a logical proposition or a scientific constant. It is not a conclusion, but a premise.

Non-voluntary

Non-voluntary; Ger. nicht-willentlich; Fr. non-volontaire, non-volontaire; not to be viewed as a logical proposition or a scientific constant. It is not a conclusion, but a premise.

Nomology

Nomology [Gr. nómo, law, + logos, theory]. The science of the manner in which laws of nature or principles of conduct are expressed (the equivalents are suggested). That part of the philosophy of science which deals with the facts of truth of reason; as distinct from Nomism, which deals with truths discoveredly or demonstratively established.

A term suggested by Sir William Hamilton, Reid’s Words, note A, 4, but having no currency. Hamlin probably derived it from