



Thomas Oberdan

Thomas Oberdan is Associate Professor in the Program in Science and Technology in Society, Clemson University since 2005.

Among his publications are:

*Protocols, Truth and Convention*. Studien zur Österreichischen Philosophie. Band XIX. (Amsterdam and Atlanta: Rodopi Press, 1993).

"The Vienna Circle," Oxford

Bibliographies. <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396577/obo-9780195396577-0311.xml?rskey=uqN6KE&result=283>

"From Helmholtz to Schlick: The Evolution of the Sign-Theory of Perception," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*. 52 (2015), pp. 35-43.

"Russell's Principles of Mathematics and the Revolution in Marburg Neo-Kantianism," *Perspectives on Science*. 22, No. 4 (2014), pp. 523-544.

"Moritz Schlick," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/schlick/>, (Summer 2013)

"Geometry, Convention, and the Relativized Apriori: The Schlick-Reichenbach Correspondence," in F. Stadler and H. J. Wendel, eds. *Schlick Studien I*. (Wien: Springer Verlag, 2009), pp. 329-354.

Abstract

Friedrich Waismann's *Logik, Sprache, Philosophie* was initially conceived as an exposition of the leading ideas of Ludwig Wittgenstein's Tractatus in 1929. As Wittgenstein's discussions with Moritz Schlick, Waismann, and other members of the Schlick Circle soon revealed, a straightforward exposition of the Tractatus could never do justice to the ongoing evolution of the author's thinking. Accordingly, Waismann's work was re-conceived as a discussion that included Wittgenstein's recent amplifications and modifications, organized around the leading themes of the work's title. Soon, however, the scope of the work was further expanded and changed as Wittgenstein continued to produce new insights and ideas that frequently qualified or superseded earlier ones. Schlick, too, contributed to the project so that what began to emerge, in Waismann's words, was 'our method', a common approach to philosophical problems shared among Wittgenstein, Waismann, and Schlick (Gordon Baker, "Preface" in Friedrich Waismann. *Principles of Linguistic Philosophy*. Second edition. (New York: Macmillan, 1997). P. xix.). The work was no longer just a summary of Wittgenstein's evolving ideas but the development of an independent philosophical viewpoint to which Waismann and Schlick had each made original contributions. The result was the "common property" of all three authors – Wittgenstein, Waismann, and Schlick. But while scholars have traced many of the ideas of *Logik, Sprache, Philosophie* to their roots in Wittgenstein's writings, there has been little effort to identify Schlick's contributions beyond those referenced in the text. These references, however, end in 1932, omitting his later and much more developed treatments of logic, language, and their importance in philosophy. In the interests of correcting this oversight, Schlick's contribution to "our common method" in his later essays and unpublished manuscripts will be discussed.

24. Wiener Kreis Vorlesung  
24<sup>th</sup> Vienna Circle Lecture

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## 'Our Common Method' in *Logik, Sprache, Philosophie*

Freitag, 16. September 2016  
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Aula 1.11  
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