Scott Soames was an undergraduate in philosophy at Stanford University, and a graduate student studying Linguistics and Philosophy at M. I. T., where he received his Ph.D. in philosophy in 1976. He taught philosophy at Yale University from 1976–1980, when he moved to Princeton University, where he taught from 1980–2004. He joined the faculty of USC in the Fall of 2004, where he has been Director of the School of Philosophy since 2007. His specialties are the philosophy of language, history of analytic philosophy, and the philosophy of law.


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Abstract

The logical empiricism of the Vienna Circle was the second great step in the development of analytic philosophy, following the turn to logic and mathematics initiated by Frege and Russell, and the practice of analysis illustrated by Moore. Although Wittgenstein was not a member of the Circle, he greatly influenced those who were. The lecture will articulate three important contemporary lessons to be gained by identifying, reconstructing, and developing under-appreciated insights of Wittgenstein, Carnap, and Schlick concerning the nature of propositions, modality, and ethics.

Scott Soames (USC Dornsife, USA)

Viennese Lessons: Wittgenstein, Schlick, and Carnap

Friday, May 10, 2019
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