

Chapter 3:

The Empiricist Response to Descartes and the Rationalist Counter

“BIG 3” PHILOSOPHIES WESTERN CIVILIZATION

- **Rationalism** refers to philosophical positions emphasizing an active mind that transforms sensory information. It is capable of creating ideas that are not found in sensory information.
- **Empiricism** refers to philosophical positions that hold that all knowledge comes from experience, especially sensory experience.
- **Romanticism** refers to philosophical positions emphasizing the emotional, irrational aspects of humans and the need to trust our own natural impulses.

Empiricism

- Source of Knowledge = Experience
 - Sensory for most but "Mentalism" not excluded
- However...
- All Knowledge and Intellectual Processes are Dependent on **SENSORY EXPERIENCE**

