

Qualia and the Problem of Universals

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Abstract

In this paper I explore the logical relationship between the question of the reality of qualia and the problem of universals. I argue that nominalism is inconsistent with the existence of qualia, and that realism either implies or makes plausible the existence of qualia. Thus, one's position on the existence of qualia is strongly constrained by one's answer to the problem of universals.

Keywords: qualia, consciousness, first-person character, ontology

Subjects: [Specific Sciences: Biology: Neuroscience](#)
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Additional Information: This is an updated version of a paper that appeared previously on the author's website.