

PHI 030: April 15 2015

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Karl Popper (1902-1994)

- Took prescriptive (as opposed to descriptive or historicist) approach to philosophy of science
- Does not think science has one method
- Accepted David Hume's critique of induction, and went further claiming science doesn't use induction
- Instead, science has a very particular logic of falsification

Popper's Targets

- Karl Marx (1818-1883)
- Sigmund Freud (1865-1939)
- Alfred Adler (1870-1937)

Popper's Hero (or Exemplar)

- "Einstein's theory was highly 'risky', in the sense that it was possible to deduce consequences from it which were, in the light of the then dominant Newtonian physics, highly improbable (e.g., that light is deflected towards solid bodies—confirmed by Eddington's experiments in 1919)." -- [Stephen Thornton](#)