

Idealism vs. Realism

Idealism: The metaphysical claim that whatever exists is either a mind or is dependent on a mind or consciousness for its existence.

Solipsism: The metaphysical claim that whatever exists is either *my* mind or is dependent on my mind for its existence.

Phenomenalism: If something exists then it is at least possible for it to be perceived or directly known by some mind.

Minimal Realism: at least one thing exists that is not dependent on a mind or consciousness for its existence

Robust Realism: with a few possible exceptions, nothing depends on a mind or consciousness for its existence.

Extreme Realism: Nothing depends on a mind or consciousness for its existence

Materialism: Extreme realism is correct and everything that exists is a material thing or consists of relations among material things.

Scientific Realism/Instrumentalism: If something exists, then it is at least possible for it to be discovered and understood by scientific methods.