

Roberto Frega

*Evolutionary Naturalism and Pragmatist Epistemology*

Naturalism has been a key feature of American pragmatism since its origins. Pragmatist naturalism appears to be of a different brand compared to contemporary naturalism, as its roots lie in the evolutionary paradigm. Extending the evolutionary framework to the understanding of human – and notably cognitive – phenomena, pragmatism does not aim at founding a new anthropological science, but rather at offering a new approach to normativity. The original contribution of pragmatism to contemporary epistemology has therefore to be understood against the evolutionary background, according to which logic and epistemology have to be historicized and become the object of a natural history of knowledge and thinking. In this article I explore this theme drawing mainly on Dewey's epistemological and logical work.