

What is rationality?

1. "Rationality" properly refers to the capacity both to make or imply claims to validity and to validate them as and when they become problematic, either immediately and precritically, on the primary level of self-understanding and life-praxis, or mediately and critically, on the secondary level of critical reflection and proper theory.

2. Therefore, in principle, any human activity in which validity claims are expressed or implied is a rational activity, even as is any activity in which validity claims of one kind or another are validated, either immediately and precritically or mediately and critically.

3. By "the academy," accordingly, one properly refers to the human community as a community of learning and teaching formally organized for the purpose of validating claims to validity mediately and critically, on the secondary level of critical reflection and proper theory.

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