

Unusual Terms In Excerpts from the Introduction & The Big Fuss About Emptiness from Wangchuk's Mipham's Dialectics and the Debates on Emptiness

1. Hypostatic - the substance or essential nature of an individual
2. Qua - in the capacity or character of; "as"
3. Propaedeutic - an introduction to a subject or area of study.
4. Apophaticism - **negative theology**, *via negativa* or *via negationis*^[1] (Latin for "negative way" or "by way of denial"), is a type of theological thinking that attempts to describe God, the Divine Good, by negation, to speak only in terms of what may not be said about the perfect goodness that is God.^[2] It stands in contrast to cataphatic theology.
5. Cataphaticism - or **kataphatic theology** is theology that uses "positive" terminology to describe or refer to the divine – specifically, God – i.e. terminology that describes or refers to what the divine is believed to be, in contrast to the "negative" terminology used in apophatic theology to indicate what it is believed the divine is not
6. Aseity - **Aseity** (from Latin *a* "from" and *se* "self", plus *-ity*) refers to the property by which a being exists in and of itself, from itself, or exists as so-and-such of and from itself.^[1]
7. Apogogic - of, relating to, or involving an apagoge; *especially* : proceeding by the method of disproving the proposition that contradicts the one to be established. And n. An indirect argument which proves a thing by showing the impossibility or absurdity of the contrary.
8. Eristic - **eristic** (from *Eris*, the ancient Greek goddess of chaos, strife, and discord) refers to argument that aims to successfully dispute another's argument, rather than searching for truth. According to T.H. Irwin, "It is characteristic of the eristic to think of some arguments as way of defeating the other side, by showing that an opponent must assent to the negation of what he initially took himself to believe."^[1] Eristic is arguing for the sake of conflict, as opposed to resolving conflict.^[2]
9. Irenic - tending to promote peace or reconciliation; peaceful or conciliatory.
10. Casuistry - the use of clever but unsound reasoning, especially in relation to moral questions; sophistry by the application of theoretical rules to particular instances. Specious, deceptive, or oversubtle reasoning, especially in questions of morality; fallacious or dishonest application of general principles
11. For reference, Tsongkhapa's dates (since not included in the reading excerpt) are 1357-1419.