

A Taxonomy for Apithology: Navigating an architecture of words

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ABSTRACT – The discipline of apithology involves new ideas that at a first glance, due to their unfamiliarity, may appear complex and abstract. The field will often use familiar terms in an unfamiliar way, leaving us to grapple with their meaning. Because apithology seeks to examine the qualities of consciousness, rather than the structures of consciousness, an inquiry into the aesthetics of consciousness is required. This is an aesthetic of something that cannot be seen. The languages and descriptors used in the fields of psychology, neurobiology, phenomenology, systems theory and sociology are contributive, yet insufficient for this task. This article seeks to provide guidance on the essential descriptive terminology used in apithology. An illustrative architectural metaphor is used to make these abstract concepts more tangible for the practitioner. This article therefore provides a way to explore the dynamic architecture of human conceptions by introducing an appreciation of the aesthetic qualities of thought itself as seen within the processes of generative emergence.

INTRODUCTION

The field of apithology studies the dynamics of different qualities of consciousness. Because ‘meaning’ and how it is made plays such a central role in revealing the dynamics operating in human systems, words and what they signify hold a unique significance in the methodology of apithology. Words signify and provide the reference points in an architecture of thought that holds and contains many dynamic flows

within the thought spaces consciousness enacts. In the discipline of apithology the practitioner will often be working with the post-construct aware stages of human development, where meaning is both subjective and objective at the same time (Cook-Greuter, 2002). Language in the post-construct aware stage can also hold complex resolved forms of paradox unique in meaning to the mind of the inquirer (Wade 1999). Because apithology represents a different form of philosophical inquiry it therefore requires its own taxonomy. In forming this taxonomy the discipline of apithology explicitly recognizes the potency and limitation of its own language forms. Learning the language of apithology is designed to assist in generating the minds necessary in an apithological inquiry. The intention of this article is to review the main concepts used in an apithological inquiry and provide guidance to the meanings already established for the word signifiers used. The intention is to provide a reference point for those seeking to engage in the next level of discourse within this field, alleviating the need to create one’s own meaning, and adding a coherence of practice to enable the potential for a diverse body of practitioner based work to emerge.

ATTRACTION OF APITHOLOGY

The practice of apithology potentially appeals only to certain practitioners holding a particular orientation in their desire for human health and wellbeing. It may not appear a natural form of inquiry for all persons. While the idea of apithology as being synonymous with being healthy will be enticing (Article continues ...)