

## Metaethics: Cognitivism

### Metaethics: What is morality, or "right"?

Normative (prescriptive) ethics: How should people act?

Descriptive ethics: What do people think is right?

Applied ethics: Putting moral ideas into practice

Thin moral concepts

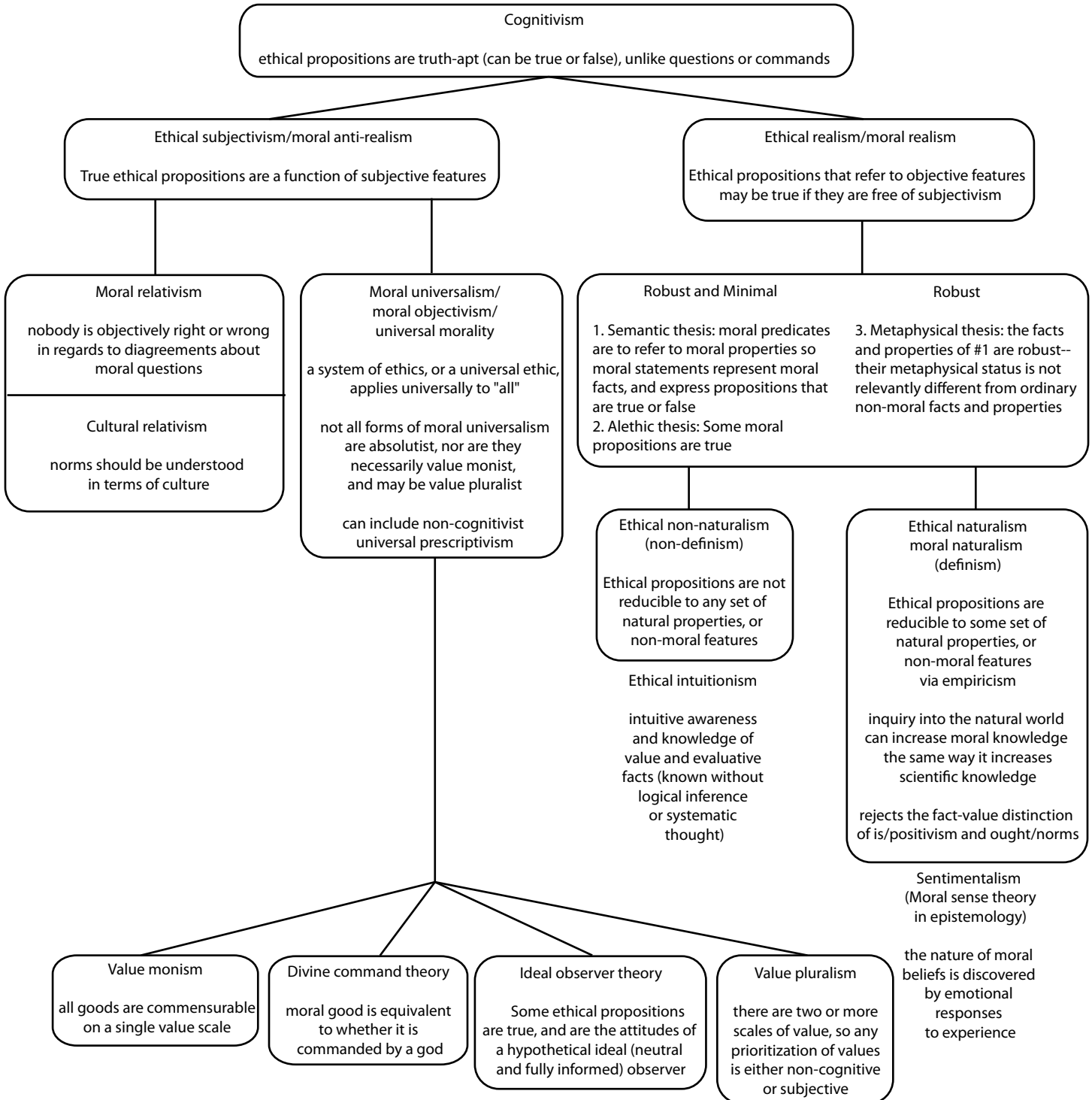
more general: good, bad, right, and wrong

Thick moral concepts

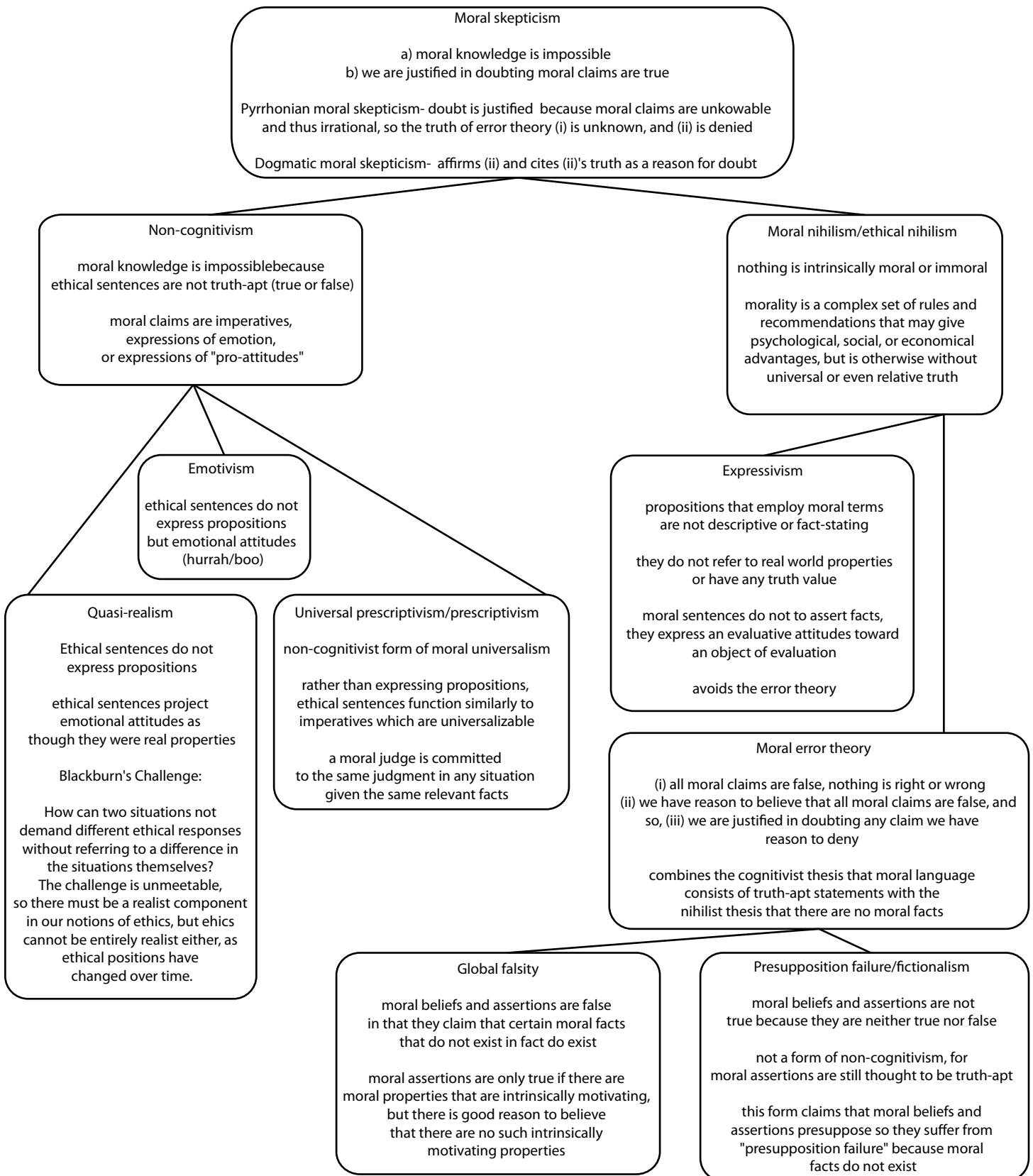
more specific: courageous, inequitable, just, or dishonest

Centralism- thin concepts are antecedent to the thick ones

Non-centralism- thick concepts are a sufficient starting point for understanding thin ones because thin and thick concepts are equal. Normativity is a non-excisable aspect of language and there is no way of analyzing thick moral concepts into a purely descriptive element attached to a thin moral evaluation, thus undermining any fundamental division between facts and norms.



## Metaethics: Moral Skepticism



# Normative Ethics

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