“a radical re-ordering of logical theory is needed in order to bring it more nearly into the line with critical practice”

“logic ...may have to become less of an a priori subject than it has recently been... Accepting the need to begin by collecting for study the actual forms of argument current in any field, our starting point will be confessedly empirical”

“not only will logic have to become more empirical; it will inevitably tend to be more historical... In natural science, for instance, men such as Kepler, Newton, Lavoisier, Darvin, and Freud have transformed not only our beliefs but also our ways of arguing and our standards of relevance and proof... Grotius and Bentham, Euclid and Gauss, have performed the same double feat for us in other fields”

Perelman, Chaim and Lucy Olbrechts-Tyteca.

“Like Frege’s theory of logic was founded upon a descriptive analysis of mathematical reasoning, they founded their argumentation theory on a descriptive analysis of reasoning with value judgments in the fields of law, history, philosophy, and literature”

“three major developments in the treatment of argumentation have begun to materialize that open new avenues for research. Although they differ in shape, these developments can be observed across a broad spectrum of theoretical approaches. The three developments I have in mind can be designated as empiricalization, contextualization, and formalization of the treatment of argumentation”

Empiricalization

- the historical-textual approach
- the meta-argumentation approach
- the cross-cultural approach
Cross-cultural approach

- The goal is to understand how people with different cultural traditions relate to face-to-face arguing.

- The orientation is to examine predispositions and understandings regarding interpersonal arguing.

- The main objective is to collect and analyze the data summarizing fundamental orientations to arguing among respondents.

- The empirical part of such projects includes nationwide surveys.

- All of the instruments of this research originated in the US (Dale Hample).