



Philosophy Reading List

General introductions

- Blackburn, S. *Think*, OUP 2001
- Craig, E. *Philosophy: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2002
- Law, S. *The Philosophy Files*, Orion 2002; *The Outer Limits*, Orion 2003; *The Philosophy Gym*, Hodder Headline 2003: three collections of very accessible short pieces on a wide range of philosophical puzzles
- Nagel, T. *What Does It All Mean?*, OUP 1987 (reprinted 2004)
- Warburton, N. *Philosophy: the Basics* (5th ed.), Routledge 2012: the most popular and enduring introduction of them all

More in depth introductions

- Grayling, A. (ed.) *Philosophy: a Guide Through the Subject* and *Philosophy: Further Through the Subject*, OUP 1998: specifically written for undergraduates at the University of London, the articles give clear and concise coverage of central philosophical issues
- Greetham, B. *Philosophy*, Palgrave Macmillan 2006
- Hollis, M. *Invitation to Philosophy*, Blackwell 1997
- Horner, C. & Westacott, E. *Thinking Through Philosophy*, CUP 2000
- Morton, A. *Philosophy in Practice*, Blackwell 1995
- Osborne, R. *Philosophy for Beginners*, Red Wheel/Weiser, 2007
- Teichman, J. & Evans, K. *Philosophy: a Beginner's Guide*, Blackwell 1991

Reference Works

- Blackburn, S. *The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy*, OUP 1996
- *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*: an excellent and constantly growing resource; very detailed for students' purposes but excellent

Journals

- *Think* (www.royalinstitutephilosophy.org/think/index.php)
- *The Philosopher's Magazine* (www.philosophersnet.com)
- *Philosophy Now* (www.philosophynow.org)
- *Dialogue* (www.dialogue.org.uk): for Philosophy of Religion and Ethics
- *Philosophy Compass* (<http://philosophy-compass.com>): more in-depth survey article

Magazines

www.newphilosopher.com

www.philosophynow.org

www.philosophersmag.com

Philosophical Thinking

- Baggini, J. & Fosl, P., *The Philosopher's Toolkit*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2010: a very good compendium of clear explanations of concepts and arguments
- Martinich, A., *Philosophical Writing* (3rd ed), Wiley-Blackwell, 2005: the Bible on approach and technique
- Saunders, C. et al, *Doing Philosophy: a Practical Guide for Students*, Continuum, 2008: designed for undergraduates, but with lots of very helpful information on skills
- Warburton, N. *The Basics of Essay Writing*, Routledge, 2007
- Warburton, Nigel Thinking A to Z, Routledge 2000
- Warburton, N. *Philosophy: the Essential Study Guide*, Routledge, 2004
- Weston, Anthony A Rulebook for Arguments, Hackett 2000

Critical Thinking

This is a collection of recommendations for undergraduates, but many are suitable for A level students as well. The first three books are perhaps the most popular, and also have on-line back-up. The McKay is particular recommended.

- Govier, Trudy 1992: *Practical Study of Argument*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Hurley, Patrick 2000: *A Concise Introduction to Logic*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
- McKay, Thomas 2000: *Reasons, Explanations, and Decisions: Guidelines for Critical Thinking*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
- Bowell, Tracy and Kemp, Gary Critical Thinking: A Concise Guide, Routledge 2002
- Fisher, Alec Critical Thinking: An Introduction, Cambridge University Press 2001
- Fisher, Alec The Logic of Real Arguments, Cambridge University Press 2004
- Fogelin, Robert Understanding Arguments, Harcourt College Publishers 2001
- Hospers, John An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis, Routledge 1996
- Moore, N.B. and Parker, R. Critical Thinking: Evaluating Arguments in Everyday Life, Mayfield Publishing Company 1989
- Ruggiero, Vincent Beyond Feelings: A Guide to Critical Thinking, Mayfield Publishing Company 1984
- Shand, John Arguing Well, Routledge. 2000
- Thomson, Anne Critical Reasoning: A Practical Introduction, Routledge 2002
- Thomson, Anne, Critical Reasoning in Ethics: A Practical Introduction, Routledge 1999
- Tymoczko, T. and Henle, J. Sweet Reason: A Field Guide to Modern Logic. Springer 1999

Epistemology

Audi, R. Epistemology: A Contemporary Introduction to Theory of Knowledge, Routledge 1998: a very accessible, clear, introductory text

- Ayer, A. J. The Problem of Knowledge, various editions: a classic of 20th-century philosophical writing about many of the central problems of epistemology, written in a clear, engaging style
- Carruthers, P. *Human Knowledge and Human Nature*, OUP 1992: on the origin of concepts and nature of knowledge
- Cole, P. *The Theory of Knowledge*, Hodder & Stoughton 2002: very accessible, but a little thin
- Dancy, J. & Sosa, E. A Companion to Epistemology, Blackwell 1997: an excellent encyclopaedic reference work with an astonishing amount of useful material about different aspects of the subject in one volume
- Hetherington, S. *Epistemology: The Key Thinkers*, Continuum 2012: useful for a number of the anthology texts
- Lehrer, K. *Theory of Knowledge*, 2nd edition, Perseus 2000: another good introduction, which should be accessible to readers who are less familiar with the theory of knowledge
- Martin, RM *Epistemology: A Beginner's Guide*, Oneworld Publications 2010
- Nagel, J *Knowledge: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press 2014
- O'Brien, D. An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge, Polity 2006
- Pritchard, D *What is this thing called Knowledge?*, 3rd Edition, Routledge 2013: very engaging read
- Russell, B. The Problems of Philosophy, various editions, e.g. Opus 2001: as with Ayer
- Williams, M. Problems of Knowledge: A Critical Introduction to Epistemology, OUP 2001: an excellent introduction, if a bit less easy than Audi

Ethics

The anthology includes two introductions to ethics:

- Rachels, J. *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*
- Warnock, G. *Contemporary Moral Philosophy*

Other helpful texts include:

- Baggini, J. Philosophy: Key Themes, Palgrave MacMillan 2002: written for the A Level
- Barrow, R. An Introduction to Moral Philosophy and Moral Education, Routledge 2007
- Blackburn, S. *Being Good*, OUP 2001: a lively, engaging, and quick introduction to the main issues of ethics, written in a very clear style.
- Singer, P. (ed.) *A Companion to Ethics*, Blackwell 1991: a great resource. Each essay, written for the beginner, is an excellent survey of a single topic.
- Benn, P. *Ethics*, UCL Press 1998: a careful and accurate introduction across the whole range of normative and metaethical issues.
- Norman, R. *The Moral Philosophers*, Clarendon Press 1983: one of the best introductions to the normative and metaethical theories of ethics via the great philosophers who held them. It also includes a good discussion of moral realism.
- Williams, B. *Morality*, CUP 1976: difficult, but excellent, discussions of subjectivism, relativism, the idea of 'good', and utilitarianism.
- Smart, J. & Williams, B. *Utilitarianism: For and Against*, CUP 1973: one of the most informative discussions of utilitarianism – its structure, its motives, and its problems.
- Baggini, J. *Philosophy: Key Themes*, Palgrave MacMillan 2002: written for the A level
- Crisp, R. *Mill on Utilitarianism*, Routledge 1997: a thorough, but clear, treatment of Bentham and Mill's utilitarianism
- Blackburn, S. *Ethics: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2003

- Jones, G. *Exploring Ethics*, John Murray 2000
- Dimmock, M., Fisher, A. *Ethics for A-Level*, Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers, 2017
- Mackie, J. *Ethics: Inventing Right and Wrong*, Penguin 1977 (or Viking 1991): the first two chapters present a powerful attack on moral realism

Specifically on practical ethical issues:

- Singer, P. *Practical Ethics* (2nd ed.), CUP 1993: defending a utilitarian standpoint but discussing a wide range of arguments in practical ethics.
- Glover, J. *Causing Death and Saving Lives*, Penguin 1977: as with Singer, but more detailed
- DeGrazia, D. *Animal Rights: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2002
- Hope, T. *Medical Ethics: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2004

Metaphysics of God

- Clack, B. & Clack, B. *The Philosophy of Religion: A Critical Introduction* (2nd ed), Polity Press 2008
- Davies, B. *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*, 3rd ed, OUP 2004
- Evans, C. S. *Pocket Dictionary of Apologetics and Philosophy of Religion*, InterVarsity Press 2002
- Hick, J. *Philosophy of Religion*, 4th ed., Prentice Hall 1990
- Jackson, R. *The God of Philosophy*, *The Philosopher's Magazine* 2001
- Jones, G. et. al. *Philosophy of Religion*, John Murray 2005
- Peterson, M. et. al. *Reason and Religious Belief*, 4th ed., OUP 2012
- Zagzebski, L. *Philosophy of Religion: An Historical Introduction*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2007

Metaphysics of Mind

- Baggini, J. *Philosophy: Key Themes*, Palgrave MacMillan 2002: written for the A level
- Blackmore, S. *Consciousness: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2005
- Churchland, P. (1988) *Matter and Consciousness*, rev. ed. (MIT Press): an accessible classic
- Crane, T. *Elements of Mind*, OUP 2002: an excellent, but occasionally challenging, introduction to intentionality, the mind-body problem, consciousness, propositional attitudes and perception
- Crane, T. *The Mechanical Mind*, Penguin 1995: an excellent introduction to topics on the border between philosophy of mind and philosophy of cognitive science
- Graham, G. *Philosophy of Mind*, Blackwell 1998: a very approachable and engaging introduction to many topics on the syllabus
- Guttenplan, S. (ed.) *Companion to Philosophy of Mind*, Blackwell 1994: an indispensable reference work with entries on many of the concepts and topics covered in the syllabus
- Heil, J. *Philosophy of Mind: a Contemporary Introduction* (3rd ed.), Routledge 2014: a solid, detailed, and very up-to-date textbook written in a clear and well-organised way
- Kim, J. *Philosophy of Mind* (3rd ed.), Westview 2011: as for Heil
- Maslin, K. *An Introduction to Philosophy of Mind* (2nd ed.), Polity Press 2007
- Maslin, K. *An Introduction to Philosophy of Mind*, Polity Press 2001: written for the A level
- Ravenscroft, I. *Philosophy of Mind*, OUP 2005: a very clear introduction, pitched for the complete beginner
- Searle, J. *Mind: a Brief Introduction*, OUP 2004: a different approach that introduces some of the difficult issues in Philosophy of Mind, and where we've gone wrong in thinking about them
- Smith & Jones *Philosophy of Mind*, CUP 1986: as for Heil