

Philosophy Reading List

This is a list of books and podcasts that anyone planning to study philosophy at university should find worthwhile. Those coming to Cambridge may receive individual advice on preparatory reading from their college Director of Studies, in which case that advice should take precedence.

Introductions to Philosophy

Julia Annas, ***Ancient Philosophy: A very short introduction*** (Oxford University Press, 2000)

Simon Blackburn, ***Think*** (Oxford University Press, 2001)

Rebecca Buxton and Lisa Whiting (editors), ***The Philosopher Queens: The lives and legacies of philosophy's unsung women*** (Unbound, 2020)

Peter Catapano and Simon Critchley, ***The Stone Reader: Modern philosophy in 133 arguments*** (Liveright, 2016)

Edward Craig, ***Philosophy: A very short introduction*** (Oxford University Press, 2002)

The ***Philosophy Bites*** series (Oxford University Press), including *Philosophy Bites*, *Philosophy Bites Back* and *Philosophy Bites Again* by David Edmonds and Nigel Warburton, and *Women of Ideas* by Suki Finn

Mary Midgley, ***What is Philosophy for?*** (Bloomsbury Academic, 2018)

Thomas Nagel, ***What Does It All Mean?*** (Oxford University Press, 1987)

Gideon Rosen et al., ***The Norton Introduction to Philosophy***. Second edition (W. W. Norton & Co., 2018)

Bertrand Russell, ***The Problems of Philosophy***. Second edition (Oxford University Press, 2001)

Mary Ellen Waithe (editor), ***A History of Women Philosophers*** (Springer, 1987-1994)

Podcasts

History of Philosophy: Without any gaps by Peter Adamson
(<https://historyofphilosophy.net/>)

The UnMute Podcast with Myisha Cherry (<https://unmutetalk.podbean.com/>)

Philosophy Bites with David Edmonds and Nigel Warburton
(<https://philosophybites.com/>)

Five Questions with Kieran Setiya (<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/kieran-setiya>)

The Philosophers' Arms with Matthew Sweet
(<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01lyb82>)

The Philosopher's Zone presented by David Rutledge
(<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/philosopherszone>)

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind and Epistemology

- Helen Beebe, ***Free Will: An introduction*** (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013)
- Earl Conee and Theodore Sider, ***Riddles of Existence***. New edition (Clarendon Press, 2014)
- Tim Crane, ***The Mechanical Mind***. Third edition (Routledge, 2015)
- Amy Kind, ***Persons and Personal Identity*** (Polity Press, 2015)
- Tom McClelland, ***What is Philosophy of Mind?*** (Polity Press, 2021)
- Jennifer Nagel, ***Knowledge: A very short introduction*** (Oxford University Press, 2014)

Logic and Language

- Wilfrid Hodges, ***Logic***, Second edition (Penguin, 2001). Sections 1-8 and 12-19
- P.D. Magnus and Tim Button, ***forallx:Cambridge***
(<http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~uctytbu/OERs.html>) This is the logic textbook used in the first year of the Philosophy Tripos.
- Michael Morris, ***An Introduction to the Philosophy of Language***, (Cambridge University Press, 2007)
- Graham Priest, ***Logic: A very short introduction***, Second Edition (Oxford University Press, 2017)
- R M Sainsbury, ***Paradoxes***. Third edition (Cambridge University Press, 2009)

Ethics and Political Philosophy

- Simon Blackburn, ***Being Good: A short introduction to ethics*** (Oxford University Press, 2002)
- Julia Driver, ***Ethics: The fundamentals*** (Blackwell, 2006)
- Judith Jarvis Thompson, ***Goodness and Advice*** (Oxford University Press, 2001)
- Mary Midgley, ***Can't We Make Moral Judgements?*** (Bloomsbury Academic, 2017)
- Phil Parvin and Clare Chambers, ***Teach Yourself Political Philosophy: A complete introduction*** (Hodder & Stoughton, 2012)
- Jennifer Mather Saul, ***Feminism: Issues & arguments*** (Oxford University Press, 2003)
- Jonathan Wolff, ***An Introduction to Political Philosophy***. Third edition (Oxford University Press, 2016)

Philosophy of Science

Alexander Bird, ***Philosophy of Science*** (Routledge, 2003)

Alan Chalmers, ***What Is This Thing Called Science?***, Fourth edition, (Maidenhead, Berks: Open University Press, 2013)

Tim Lewens, ***The Meaning of Science*** (Pelican, 2015)

Some Philosophy Classics

Use any edition available. Some of these are freely available on the internet:

Plato, ***Meno and Euthyphro***

Milinda-pañho (Questions of King Milinda)

Ibn Tufayl, ***Hayy Ibn Yaqzan (Alive, Son of Awake)***, also known as ***The Self-Taught Philosopher***

Berkeley, ***Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous***

Descartes, ***Meditations***

Hume, ***Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding, Dialogues on Natural Religion*** and 'Of the Standard of Taste'

Mary Wollstonecraft, ***A Vindication of the Rights of Woman***

J S Mill, ***Utilitarianism and On Liberty***

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, ***The Communist Manifesto***

J. L. Austin, ***How to Do Things With Words: The William James lectures delivered at Harvard University in 1955***