



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL
SHAKESPEARE'S SCHOOL

PHILOSOPHY – SIXTH FORM READING LIST

**Books in green type are held in the Philosophy Department.
Ones in orange type are partially available online.
A purple asterisk means the School Library has a copy.**

General Introductions to Philosophy

Short, accessible introductions

Blackburn, S. *Think*, OUP 2001 *

Cohen, M. *101 Philosophical Problems*, Routledge 2013 (4th ed)

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

Buckingham, W. et. al., *The Philosophy Book*, * Dorling Kindersley 2011: a wide-ranging historical survey, with a few pages on each topic

Cave, P. *This Sentence is False: An Introduction to Philosophical Paradoxes*, Continuum 2009 *

Cohen, M. *Philosophy for Dummies*, Wiley 2010

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

Prichard, D. (ed.) *What is This Thing Called Philosophy?*, Routledge 2016: accessible chapters introducing main areas and concepts of philosophy

Teichman, J. & Evans, K. *Philosophy: a Beginner's Guide*, Blackwell 1991

Two reference works

Blackburn, S. *The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy*, OUP 1996

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: an excellent and constantly growing resource; too detailed for students' purposes, but teachers may find some of the articles useful, if challenging

Journals

Think (royalinstitutephilosophy.org/publications/think/)

The Philosopher's Magazine (www.philosophersmag.com)

Philosophy Now (philosophynow.org)

Dialogue (www.dialogue.org.uk): for **Philosophy of Religion and Ethics**

Philosophy Compass ([http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1747-9991/homepage/ProductInformation.html](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1747-9991/homepage/ProductInformation.html)): more in-depth survey articles

Philosophical skills

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, N. *Thinking from A to Z*, * Routledge, 2000

Warburton, N. *Philosophy: the Essential Study Guide*, Routledge, 2004

Weston, A., *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 particularly 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.

Beale, J C 2010: *Logic: The Basics*, London: Routledge. *

Bowell, Tracy and Kemp, Gary 2002: *Critical Thinking: A Concise Guide*. London: Routledge.

Fisher, Alec 2001: *Critical Thinking: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. *

Fisher, Alec 2004: *The Logic of Real Arguments*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Flew, Anthony 1985: *Thinking About Thinking*. Harper Collins.

Fogelin, Robert 2001: *Understanding Arguments*. London: Harcourt College Publishers.

Hospers, John 1996: *An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis*. London: Routledge.

Moore, N.B. and Parker, R. 1989: *Critical Thinking: Evaluating Arguments in Everyday Life*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Ruggiero, Vincent 1984: *Beyond Feelings: A Guide to Critical Thinking*. Palo Alto, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Shand, John 2000: *Arguing Well*. London: Routledge.

Thomson, Anne 1999: *Critical Reasoning in Ethics: A Practical Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Thomson, Anne 2002: *Critical Reasoning: A Practical Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Tymoczko, T. and Henle, J. 1999: *Sweet Reason: A Field Guide to Modern Logic*. Springer.

Whyte, Jamie 2003: *Bad Thoughts: A Guide to Clear Thinking*, Corvo. *

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

Bernecker, S. & Pritchard, D. *The Routledge Companion to Epistemology*, Routledge 2014.

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

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, R. M. *Epistemology: A Beginner's Guide*, Oneworld Publications 2010

Morton, A. *A Guide through the Theory of Knowledge*, 3rd Edition, Blackwell 2003

Nagel, J. *Knowledge: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press 2014 *

O'Brien, D. *An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge*, Polity 2006
Pritchard & Neta, *Arguing About Knowledge*, Routledge 2008
Pritchard, D. *What is this thing called Knowledge?*, 3rd Edition, Routledge 2013: very engaging read
Uzgalis, W. *Locke's Essay on Human Understanding: A Reader's Guide*, Continuum 2007
Williams, M. *The Problem of Knowledge*, OUP 2001: an excellent introduction, if a bit less easy than Audi

Moral Philosophy

GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS

Baggini, J. *Philosophy: Key Themes*, Palgrave MacMillan 2002: written for the A level
Benn, P. *Ethics*, UCL Press 1998: a careful and accurate introduction across the whole range of normative and metaethical issues.
Bennett, C. *What is This Thing Called Ethics?*, Routledge 2010: lots of student-friendly features
Blackburn, S. *Being Good*, OUP 2001: a lively, engaging, and quick introduction to the main issues of ethics, written in a very clear style.
Blackburn, S. *Ethics: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2003
Cave, P. *Ethics*, Oneworld 2015 *
Jones, G. *Exploring Ethics*, John Murray 2000
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.
Rachels, J. *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, McGraw-Hill 2014: a favourite of introductory courses, now in its eighth edition.
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.
Williams, B. *Morality*, CUP 1976: difficult, but excellent, discussions of subjectivism, relativism, the idea of 'good', and utilitarianism.

ON SPECIFIC THEORIES

Chrisman, M. *What is This Thing Called Metaethics?*, Routledge 2017
Crisp, R. *Mill on Utilitarianism*, Routledge 1997: a thorough, but clear, treatment of Bentham and Mill's utilitarianism
Guyer, P. *Kant's Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals: A Reader's Guide*, Continuum 2007
Hughes, G. *Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics*, Routledge 2013
MacIntyre, A. *After Virtue*, Bloomsbury 2014
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.
Warne, C. *Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics: A Reader's Guide*, Continuum 2006

ON APPLIED ETHICAL ISSUES

Singer, P. *Practical Ethics* (2nd ed.), CUP 1993: defending a utilitarian standpoint but discussing a wide range of arguments in practical ethics.

DeGrazia, D. *Animal Rights: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2002

Young, G. *Ethics in the Virtual World*, Routledge 2013

Metaphysics of God

GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS

Clack, B. & Clack, B. *The Philosophy of Religion: A Critical Introduction*, Polity Press 1998

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

Sweetman, B. *Religion: Key Concepts in Philosophy*, Continuum 2007

Zagzebski, L. *Philosophy of Religion: An Historical Introduction*, Wiley-Blackwell 2007

COLLECTIONS

Davies, B. (ed.) *Philosophy of Religion: a Guide and Anthology*, OUP 2000

Davies, B. (ed.) *Philosophy of Religion: a Guide to the Subject*, Cassell 1998

Mitchell, B. (ed.) *The Philosophy of Religion*, OUP 1971

Palmer, M. (ed.) *The Philosophy of Religion: A Commentary and Sourcebook*, Lutterworth 2008

Quinn & Taliaferro (ed.) *A Companion to Philosophy of Religion*, Blackwell 1999

Timpe, K. (ed.) *Arguing About Religion*, Routledge 2009

MORE FOCUSED TOPICS OR APPROACH

Baggini, J. *Atheism: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2003 *

Hughes, G. *Is God to Blame?*, Veritas 2007: on the problem of evil

Swinburne, R. *The Existence of God*, * 2nd ed., OUP 2004

Swinburne, R. *Is There a God?*, 2nd ed., OUP 2010

Vardy, P. *The Puzzle of God*, * 3rd ed., Fount 1999

Metaphysics of Mind

Ravenscroft, I. *Philosophy of Mind*, OUP 2005: a very clear introduction, pitched for the complete beginner

Graham, G. *Philosophy of Mind*, Blackwell 1998: a very approachable and engaging introduction to many topics on the syllabus

Churchland, P. (1988) *Matter and Consciousness*, rev. ed. (MIT Press): an accessible classic

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

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

Crane, T. *The Mechanical Mind*, Penguin 1995: an excellent introduction to topics on the border between philosophy of mind and philosophy of cognitive science

Crane, T. *Elements of Mind*, OUP 2002: an excellent, but occasionally challenging, introduction to intentionality, the mind-body problem, consciousness, propositional attitudes and perception

Baggini, J. *Philosophy: Key Themes*, Palgrave MacMillan 2002: written for the A level

Maslin, K. *An Introduction to Philosophy of Mind*, Polity Press 2001: written for the A level

Blackmore, S. *Consciousness: a Very Short Introduction*, OUP 2005 *