

# Exploring Philosophy An Introductory Anthology 4th Edition

Exploring PhilosophyThe Scope of PhilosophyExploring PhilosophyIntroductory  
PhilosophyIntroduction to PhilosophyIntroductory PhilosophyReflections on  
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Leemon B. McHenry Steven M. Cahn Charles Albert DUBRAY Charles A. Dubray  
James Rachels John Perry Samuel Enoch Stumpf Charles A. Dubray University of  
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those who begin the study of philosophy may easily become discouraged many  
classic texts are daunting in their complexity and much contemporary writing is  
intended primarily for a professional audience a few prominent philosophers of  
our day write in a style understandable by all but nonspecialists are often left  
unaware of this work they may never realize that serious discussion of central

problems of philosophy can proceed without arcane terminology unexplained references or convoluted arguments the guiding principle of this book is that reading clear concise essays by recent philosophers offers an inviting avenue to understanding philosophical inquiry while some of the articles are reprinted in their entirety many are shortened to sharpen their focus and enhance their accessibility for readers who wish to understand the development of philosophy over the centuries i have included a substantial number of historical sources including without abridgement plato s defense of socrates crito and meno as well as substantial segments from his republic descartes meditations on first philosophy and hume s an enquiry concerning human understanding and dialogues concerning natural religion most of these are identified by the name of the work from which the selection is drawn while with regard to some of the recent essays i have taken the liberty of developing short descriptive titles

extensively revised and expanded in this fourth edition exploring philosophy an introductory anthology is a uniquely accessible and engaging introduction to philosophy steven m cahn brings together exceptionally clear recent essays by noted philosophers and supplements them with influential historical sources most importantly the articles have been carefully edited to make them understandable to every reader the topics are drawn from across the major fields of philosophy and include knowledge and skepticism mind and body freedom and determinism the existence of god identity and immortality ethical reasoning abortion euthanasia world hunger democracy social justice art and life and death the readings are enhanced by concise introductions study questions explanatory notes and suggestions for further reading new to the fourth edition more than fifty new readings greatly expand the book s coverage and its flexibility for course use more than half of the new readings are historical sources which introduce students to philosophical classics and help them understand the contemporary selections four new sections identity and immortality social justice art and life and death extend the anthology s range into areas that today s students find especially compelling study questions after each reading help students test their comprehension and encourage class discussion

excerpt from introductory philosophy a text book for colleges and high schools the efforts which have been made in recent years to provide the beginner in philosophy with a text book suited to his needs are justified both by the importance of the subject and by the requirements of educational method it is obvious that an introduction should really introduce in other words that it should present philosophy in such a way as to arouse the student s interest give him a firm grasp of essentials and encourage him to further study but how these

results are to be secured is still an open question the books that have so far appeared have each from its own point of view distinct advantages either as outlining the history of philosophical problems or as setting forth the claims of rival systems or as explaining the principles which serve as the foundation of some special system and a basis of criticism in discussing variant theories an introduction that will combine these several utilities seems to be our present need dr dubray s aim in this volume is to lead the student by easy approaches into the field of philosophy and to show him its divisions with their several problems and the solutions which these have received in accordance with the principles of correct method the knowledge which the student has already acquired is made to serve as the starting point and from this he is led on to the consideration of more abstract philosophical concepts and theories these again are presented in clear statement and orderly sequence with sufficient indication of outstanding questions yet without the excess of detail which sometimes destroys proportion or results in narrowness of view at the same time definite conclusions are presented with the evidence on which they rest so that the student may get from his use of the book not merely a lot of vague questionings but a certain amount of positive knowledge and critical direction for later investigation about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at [forgottenbooks.com](http://forgottenbooks.com) this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

in this remarkably accessible and inviting introduction to philosophy steven m cahn brings together extraordinarily clear recent essays by noted philosophers and supplements them with influential historical sources most importantly the articles have been carefully edited to make them understandable to every reader the topics are drawn from the major fields of philosophy and include knowledge and skepticism freedom and determinism mind and body the existence of god the problem of evil faith and reason cultural relativism abortion euthanasia democracy privacy capital punishment affirmative action death and the meaning of life the collection also contains in preeminent translations and with explanatory notes the complete texts of plato s meno euthyphro defence of socrates and crito as well as specially selected materials by aristotle aquinas descartes hume kant and mill

problems from philosophy is an introductory text organized around the great philosophical problems the existence of god the nature of the mind human freedom the limits of knowledge and the truth about ethics it begins by reflecting on the life of the first great philosopher socrates then it takes up the fundamental question of whether god exists next comes a discussion of death and the soul which leads to a chapter about persons the later chapters consider whether objective knowledge is possible in science and ethics problems from philosophy represents the final work of philosopher james rachels in it he brings the same liveliness and clarity to the introduction of philosophy present in his other best selling texts problems from philosophy has been revised by james rachels son stuart who has carefully refined his father s work to further strengthen its clarity and accessibility the fourth edition features revisions on discussions of free will artificial intelligence idealism and kantian ethics

introduction to philosophy 3 e is the most comprehensive topically organized collection of classical and contemporary philosophy available ideal for introductory philosophy courses the third edition of this classic text now includes a general introduction and features eighteen selections new to this volume and an expanded glossary of philosophical terms a serious and challenging work it includes sections on the meaning of life god and evil epistemology philosophy of science the mind body problem freedom of will consciousness ethics and philosophical puzzles this exceptionally successful anthology presents a large number of substantial and in some cases complete selections from major works offering a unique balance between classical and contemporary readings this third edition adds selections by plato nelson pike j l mackie elizabeth anderson david lewis hilary putnam frank jackson john perry peter strawson rosalind hursthouse g a cohen samuel scheffler debra satz and kwame anthony appiah as well as kavka s toxin puzzle and quinn s puzzle of the self torturer

the new edition of this introductory text presents in an accessible way classical and contemporary readings on topics central to and representative of all major periods of the western philosophical tradition the book presents 55 readings 23 of which are new to the fourth edition on seven topics epistemology philosophy of religion metaphysics personal identity and immortality free will and determinism ethics and political and social philosophy pedagogical features make these readings accessible and interesting to beginning students all the introductions and biographical sketches have been revised for the fourth edition as have the study questions and glossary the explanatory footnotes and the stylistic modernization of texts are new to the fourth edition

each number is the catalogue of a specific school or college of the university

the world of philosophy is an accessible flexible reader for introductory philosophy courses that combines standard western historical and analytic materials with writings from chinese indian native american continental and other sources it seeks to present philosophy in all its diverse array of thought and practice without neglecting to provide the most seminal philosophical readings from the traditional western canon

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**Introduction**

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