

Modern Philosophy, 1580-1900

Comprehensive exam master reading list

I. The "canonical" list

1. Descartes. *Meditations on First Philosophy* and *The Second and Fourth Sets of Objections and 2. Replies*. Volume 2 of *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*. Translated by John Cottingham, Robert Stoothoff, and Dugald Murdoch. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984. [133]
2. Hobbes. *Leviathan*. Edited by Edwin Curley. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994. Parts I and II. [239]
3. Spinoza. *The Ethics*. In *Baruch Spinoza: Ethics, Treatise on the Emendation of the Intellect and Selected Letters*. Translated by Samuel Shirley. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1992. Parts I and II. [70]
4. Leibniz. "Primary Truths," "Discourse on Metaphysics," "The Correspondence with Arnauld" and "The Principles of Nature and Grace." In *G.W. Leibniz: Philosophical Essays*. Translated by Roger Ariew and Daniel Garber. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1989. [65]
5. Locke. *An Essay concerning Human Understanding*. Edited by Kenneth Winkler. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1996. II.i-xxxiii, III.iii and vi, and IV.i-iv and xi-xvi. [217]
6. Berkeley. *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*. In *George Berkeley: Philosophical Writings*. Edited by Desmond Clarke. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009. [84]
7. Hume. *A Treatise of Human Nature*. Edited by David Fate Norton and Mary J. Norton. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2007. Books I, III, and appendix. [286]
8. Kant. *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*. Edited by Gary Hatfield. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997. Preface through the Second Part of the Main Transcendental Question. [75]

II. The Cartesian tradition

1. Montaigne. "Apology for Raymond Sebond." Translated by Roger Ariew and Marjorie Grene. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 2003. [164]
2. Suarez. *On the Formal Cause of Substance: Metaphysical Disputation XV*, translated by John Kronen and Jeremiah Reedy (Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 2000). [179]
2. Descartes. *Meditations on First Philosophy* and *The Second and Fourth Sets of Objections and 2. Replies*. Volume 2 of *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*. Translated by John Cottingham, Robert Stoothoff, and Dugald Murdoch. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984. [133]
4. Spinoza. *The Ethics*. In *Baruch Spinoza: Ethics, Treatise on the Emendation of the Intellect and Selected Letters*. Translated by Samuel Shirley. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1992. Parts I and II. [70]

5. Malebranche. *Search after Truth*. In *Nicolas Malebranche: Philosophical Selections*. Edited by Steven Nadler. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1992. [144]
6. Leibniz. "Primary Truths," "Discourse on Metaphysics," "The Correspondence with Arnauld" and "The Principles of Nature and Grace." In *G.W. Leibniz: Philosophical Essays*. Translated by Roger Ariew and Daniel Garber. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1989. [65]

III. The empiricist tradition

1. Hobbes. *Leviathan*. Edited by Edwin Curley. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994. Part I [102]
2. Locke. *An Essay concerning Human Understanding*. Edited by Kenneth Winkler. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1996. II.i-xxxiii, III.iii and vi, and IV.i-iv and xi-xvi. [217]
3. Bayle. *Historical and Critical Dictionary*, Translated by Richard Popkin. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1991. S.v. "Dicaearchus," "Leucippus," "Pyhrro," "Rorarius," "Spinoza," and "Zeno of Elea". [162]
4. Berkeley. *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*. In *George Berkeley: Philosophical Writings*. Edited by Desmond Clarke. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009. [84]
5. Hume. *A Treatise of Human Nature*. Edited by David Fate Norton and Mary J. Norton. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2007. Books I, III, and appendix. [286]
6. Reid. *Essays on the Intellectual Powers of Man*. Edited by Derek R. Brookes. University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2002. Essays II.5, 14, and 16-22; III.2-6; IV; V.1-5; and VI.1-2 and 4-6. [287]
7. Kant. *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*. Edited by Gary Hatfield. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997. Preface through the Second Part of the Main Transcendental Question. [75]
8. Mill. *A System of Logic* (Bk. III, c. 3, [on Induction]; Bk. VI, cs. 1, 3, 10-11, [on moral sciences])
9. Helmholtz. "On the Origin and Significance of Geometrical Axioms"

IV. The German Idealist tradition

1. Kant. *Critique of Pure Reason* (Transcendental Aesthetic, Transcendental Deduction in B, Second Analogy, Refutation of Idealism, Third Antinomy and Resolution [§9.III])
Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals, Sections I and II
"On the Old Saying: That May be True in Theory but is of no use in Practice" (Sections I and II)
2. Fichte. *Wissenschaftslehre* (Preface, 1st and 2nd Introductions). Hackett.
3. Hegel. *Phenomenology of Spirit* (Preface, Consciousness [§§90-110], Self-Consciousness [§§166-196])
The Philosophy of Right (Preface, Introduction, Morality [§§105-141], Ethical Life [§§142-208, §§257-259])

IV. Moral and political philosophy

1. Hobbes. *Leviathan*. Edited by Edwin Curley. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994. Part II. [120]
2. Locke. *Two Treatises of Government*. Edited by Peter Laslett. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1960. Second Treatise. [161]
3. The British Moralists (Shaftesbury, Mandeville, Hutcheson, and Butler). *The British Moralists 1650-1800*. Volume 1, Hobbes – Gay. Edited by D.D. Raphael. Pp. 169-188, 229-236, 261-299, and 325-364. [73]
4. Rousseau. *The Social Contract*.
5. Kant. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, Sections I and II
6. Hegel. *The Philosophy of Right* (Preface, Introduction, Morality [§§105-141], Ethical Life [§§142-208, §§257-259])
7. Comte. *The Positive Philosophy* (Introduction)
8. Feuerbach: *The Essence of Christianity* (Preface, Introduction, Part One §§II-III)
9. Marx. *The German Ideology* ("Ideology in General and German Ideology in Particular")
Theses on Feuerbach
The *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts* of 1844 (sections on "Estranged Labour" and "Private Property and Communism")
10. Mill. *Utilitarianism; On Liberty* (cs. 1-2); *The Subjection of Women*

V. Late 19th-early 20th century developments

8. Nietzsche. "On the Use and Disadvantages of History for Life," in *Untimely Meditations*
Genealogy of Morals
9. Mach. "The Economical Character of Physical Inquiry"
10. Dilthey. *Introduction to the Human Sciences* (Book One)
11. Peirce. "Some Consequences of Four Incapacities"; "Fixation of Belief"; "How to Make our Ideas Clear"
12. Husserl. *Logical Investigations* (Prolegomena to Pure Logic)