

## Rotating Reading List for the Philosophy Comprehensive Exam

***\*Please contact Étienne Brown ([etienne.brown@sjsu.edu](mailto:etienne.brown@sjsu.edu)) to gain access to the Canvas course which contains all of these readings and know which parts of the reading list apply to you (depending on the semester during which you plan to take the exam).***

### **1. History of Western Philosophy**

#### A. Accounts of the emotions

Adam Smith, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Section 1, Chapter 1; Section 2, Chapters 3-5, and Section 3, Chapters 2-3.

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Q.46-48 (pp. 1046-1063).

Seneca, *On Anger*. Book I and II.

#### B. Accounts of human nature

J. J. Rousseau, *Discourse on Inequality*, Second Part (pp. 43-67).

Plato, *Republic*, Book IV.

Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, Chapters 1, 6, 9 and 12.

#### C. Accounts of moral worth of actions.

Kant, *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, Part I and Part II.

Peter Abelard, *Ethics*, Book 1, Paragraphs 90-99.

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*. Book I, Chapters 7-9; 13, Book II and Book III, Chapters 6-9.

#### D. God.

Spinoza, *The Ethics*, Part II and II.

Ibn Sina's proof of the existence of God. In Jon McGinnis and David C. Reisman (ed.), *Classical Arabic Philosophy: An Anthology of Sources* (pp. 209-219).

- Optional accompanying resource: Peter Adamson, "From the Necessary Existent to God." In *Interpreting Avicenna* (pp. 170-189).

Aristotle, *Metaphysics*, 1071b-1074b (pp. 3638-3650).

Anne Conway, *The Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy*, Chapters 1-5.

### **2. Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language and Epistemology**

#### A. Groups

Miranda Fricker, *Epistemic Injustice: Power and the Ethics of Knowing*, Introduction and Ch. 1, 2, and 3 (pp. 1-80).

Michael Bratman, "Shared Cooperative Activity," *Philosophical Review* 101(2): 327-341.

Katherine Ritchie, "What are Groups?," *Philosophical Studies* 166(2): 257-272.

Christian List, "Group Knowledge and Group Rationality," *Episteme* 2(1): 25-38.

## B. Scientific Realism

Ian Hacking, "Do We See Through a Microscope?," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 62(4).

Bas C. Van Fraassen. *The Scientific Image*, Chapter 2 ("Arguments Concerning Scientific Realism).

Grover Maxwell, "The Ontological Status of Theoretical Entities." In H. Feigl and Grover Maxwell (eds.), *Scientific Explanation, Space and Time*.

Helen E. Longino, *Science as Social Knowledge*, Chapter 9 ("Science and Ideology," pp. 187-214).

Anjan Chakravartty, "Scientific Realism and Ontological Relativity," *The Monist* 94(2): 157-180.

## C. Metaethics

J.L. Mackie, *Ethics: Inventing Right and Wrong*, Chapter 1 ("The Subjectivity of Values," pp. 15-49).

Gilbert Harman, *The nature of Morality*, Chapter 1, Section 1 ("Ethics and Observation," pp. 3-11).

Sharon Street, "A Darwinian Dilemma for the Realist Theories of Values," *Philosophical Studies* 127: 109-166.

Richard Boyd, "How to be a Moral Realist." In G. Sayre-McCord (ed.) *Essays on Moral Realism* (pp. 181-228).

## D. Causation/Freedom/Determinism

Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Sections 4, 5, and 8.

Peter Van Inwagen, "The Incompatibility of Free Will and Determinism," *Philosophical Studies* 27(3).

David K. Lewis, "The Paradoxes of Time Travel," *American Philosophical Quarterly* 13(2).

Sarah Bernstein, "Causation Proportions and Moral Responsibility." In David Shoemaker (ed.) *Oxford Studies in Agency and Responsibility*.

## E. Philosophy of Language

Gottlob Frege, "On Sense and Reference." (English translation of "Über Sinn and Bedeutung"), from P. Geach and M. Black (eds.) (1960), *Translations from the Philosophical Writings of Gottlob Frege* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) (Oxford: Blackwell).

Bertrand Russell, "On Denoting." *Mind* 14.

Saul Kripke, *Naming and Necessity* (Lecture II). Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Alfred Tarski, "The Semantic Conception of Truth and the Foundations of Semantics," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 4: 341-375; reprint in Martinich & Sosa (eds.) 2013, 375-397.

### 3. Value Theory

#### A. Normative Ethics

Nel Noddings, *Caring*, Chapter 4 and 5, ("An Ethic of Caring" and "Construction of the Ideal", pp. 79-131).

Christine Korsgaard, *The Sources of Normativity*, Chapter 3 ("The Authority of Reflection," pp. 90-130).

J. S. Mill, *Utilitarianism*, Chapter 1 and 2, ("General Remarks" and "What Utilitarianism Is." (pp. 115-140).

Anscombe, "Modern Moral Philosophy," *Philosophy* 33(124): 1-19.

#### B. Applied Ethics

William MacAskill, "The Definition of Effective Altruism." In H. Greaves and T. Pummer (eds.) *Effective Altruism: Philosophical Issues*.

Amia Srinivasan, Stop the Robot Apocalypse, *London Review of Books* (pp. 3-6).

Susan Wolf, *The Variety of Values. Essays on Morality, Meaning and Love*. Chapter 9 ("One Thought Too Many," pp. 143-162).

John Taurek, "Should the Number's Count?," *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 6(4): 293-316.

#### C. Justice, Equality and Freedom

John Rawls, *Justice as Fairness. A Restatement*. Part III ("The Argument from the Original Position").

Robert Nozick, *Anarchy, State and Utopia*. Chapter 7, Section I (pp. 149-183).

Philip Pettit, "Freedom as Anti-Power," *Ethics* 106(3): 576-604.

Elizabeth Anderson, "What is the Point of Equality?," *Ethics* 109(2): 287-337.

#### D. Democracy and Liberalism

Thomas Christiano, "The Authority of Democracy," *Journal of Political Philosophy* 12(3).

Arash Abizadeh, "Democratic Theory and Border Coercion: No Right to Unilaterally Control Your Own Borders," *Political Theory* 36(1).

Martha Nussbaum, "Perfectionist Liberalism and Political Liberalism," *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 39(1).

Will Kymlicka, *Multicultural Citizenship. A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights*. Chapters 5 and 6 ("Freedom and culture" and "Justice and Minority Rights," pp. 75-130).

## E. Aesthetics

Plato, *Republic*, Book X.

Aristotle, *Poetics*, 1-9 (pp. 4965-4981).

Hume, *Selected Essays*, "Of the standard of taste" (pp. 133-153).

Kant, *Critique of the Power of Judgment*, "The Analytic of the Beautiful" and "The Analytic of the Sublime" (pp. 89-160).

## 4. Philosophy of Race and Gender

### A. Phenomenology and Metaphysics of Race and Sex/Gender

Judith Butler, "Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory," *Theatre Journal* 40(4): 519-531.

Sally Haslanger, "Gender and Race: (What) Are They? (What) Do We Want Them To Be?," *Noûs* 44(1): 31-55.

Charles Mills, *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race*, Chapter 3 ("But What Are You Really? The Metaphysics of Race," pp. 41-66).

María Lugones, "Playfulness, World-Traveling, and Loving Perception," *Hypatia* 2(2): 3-19.

### B. Racism and Sexism

Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics," *University of Chicago Legal Forum* 1989(1).

Marilyn Frye, "Oppression." In Anne Minas (ed.) *Gender Basics: Feminist Perspectives on Women and Men*.

Jorge L. A. Garcia, "Current Conceptions of Racism: A Critical Examination of Some Recent Social Philosophy," *Journal of Social Philosophy* 28(2): 5-42.

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, Introduction (pp. 3-20) and Chapter 1 of Part Three ("Myths").

### C. Race, Sex/Gender and Education

Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, Chapters 2, 3, 6 and 12.

Luvell Anderson and Verena Erlenbush, "Modeling Inclusive Pedagogy: Five Approaches" *Journal of Social Philosophy* 48(1): 6-19.

Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, Preface (pp. 35-42) and Chapters 1-2 (pp. 43-86).

Patricia Hill Collins, *Another Kind of Public Education: Race, Schools, the Media, and Democratic Possibilities*. Chapter 1 (“What does the Flag Mean to You?,” pp. 1-39).

#### D. Race, Sex/Gender and Dis-ability

Susan Wendell, “Toward a Feminist Theory of Disability,” *Hypatia* 4(2): 104-124.

Lisa Ikemoto, “Reproductive Tourism: Equality Concerns in the Global Market for Fertility Services,” *Law and Inequality* 27(2): 277-309.

Suzanne Lenon and Danielle Peers, “‘Wrongful’ Inheritance: Race, Disability and Sexuality in *Cramblett v. Midwest Sperm Bank*,” *Feminist Legal Studies* 25(1): 141-163.

Elizabeth Barnes, “Valuing Disability, Causing Disability,” *Ethics* 125(1): 88-113.

### 5. Comparative Philosophy

#### A. Methodology of Comparative Philosophy

Donald Davidson, “On the Very Idea of a Conceptual Scheme,” *Proceedings and Addresses of the American Philosophical Association* 47: 5-20.

David Wong, “Three kinds of Incommensurability,” in Michael Krausz (ed.), *Relativism: Interpretation and Confrontation* (pp. 140-159).

Umberto Eco *Interpretation and Overinterpretation*. Chapter 2 (“Overinterpreting texts,” pp. 45-66).

Kwong-loi Shun, “Methodological Reflections on the Study of Chinese Thought,” Sor-Hoon Tan (ed.), *Chinese Philosophy Methodologies* (pp. 57-74).

#### B. Chinese Philosophy

Chung-ying Chen, “The *Yi-Jing* and *Yin-Yang* way of thinking.” In Bo Mou (ed.), *Routledge History of Chinese Philosophy* (pp. 71-106).

Edward Slingerland, “Classical Confucianism (I): Confucius and the *Lun-Yü* [the *Analects*],” In Bo Mou (ed.), *Routledge History of Chinese Philosophy* (pp. 107-136).

Xiaogan Liu, “Daoism (I): Lao Zi and the *Dao-De-Jing*.” In Bo Mou (ed.), *Routledge History of Chinese Philosophy* (pp. 209-236).

Whalen Lai, “Chinese Buddhist philosophy from Han through Tang.” In Bo Mou (ed.) *Routledge History of Chinese Philosophy* (pp. 324-361).

Optional appendix: Bo Mou, “On some methodological issues concerning Chinese philosophy” and “Comparative chronology of philosophers and a note on transcription”). In Bo Mou (ed.) *Routledge History of Chinese Philosophy* (pp. 1-39 and pp. 609-614).

#### C. Indian Philosophy

Stephen Phillips, "Nyāya." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 175-183).

Thomas Forsthoefel, "Advaita Vedānta of Śaṅkara." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 233-241).

Jay Garfield, "Nāgārjuna." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 311-320).

Jeffery D. Long, "Anekāntavāda, Nayavāda, and Syādvāda: the History and Significance of the Jaina Doctrines of Relativity." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 390-398).

Ana Laura Funes Maderey, "An Overview of Classical Yoga Philosophy by Ana Laura Funes Maderey." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 263-270).

Alex Watson, "A Spectrum of Metaphysical Positions Concerning the Existence or Non-Existence of a Self." In Purushottama Bilimoria (ed.), *Routledge History of Indian Philosophy* (pp. 331-342).

#### D. Mexican and Latin American Philosophy

Augusto Salazar Bondy, "The Meaning and Problem of Hispanic American Philosophic Thought." In Jorge Gracia and Elizabeth Millan-Zaibert (ed.s), *Latin American Philosophy for the 21st Century* (pp. 379-398).

Leopoldo Zea, "Philosophy as Commitment." In Carlos Albert Sanchez and Robert Eli Sanchez, Jr. (ed.s), *Mexican Philosophy in the 20th Century: Essential Readings* (pp. 125-140).

Jorge Portilla, "The Phenomenology of Relajo." In Carlos Albert Sanchez, *The Suspension of Seriousness* (pp. 123-200).

Silvia Rivera Cucicanqui, "Ch'ixinakax utxiwa: A Reflection on the Practices and Discourses of Decolonization," *South Atlantic Quarterly* 111(1): 95-109.

#### E. Africana philosophy

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, Chapter 1 ("On Violence").

Abeba Birhane, "Descartes was wrong: 'a person is a person through other persons,'" *Aeon*, (1300 words).

Kwame Gyekye, "The Akan Concept of a Person," *International Philosophical Quarterly* 18(3): 277-287.

Édouard Glissant, *Introduction to a Poetics of Diversity*, Chapters 1 and 3 ("Creolizations in the Caribbean and the Americas" and "Culture and Identity").