

CONTENTS

		54
		55
		55
		57
		58
		58
		59
		59
		62
		62
		64
		68
		68
●	List of contributors	xv
	Foreword Nigel Warburton	xvii
	Acknowledgements	xx
	INTRODUCTION Michael Lacewing and Elizabeth Burns	1
	Why study philosophy?	1
	AS and A2 philosophy	2
	About this book	4
	Recommended reading	4
1	THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (UNIT 1) Janice Thomas	5
	Introduction	5
	Empiricism and rationalism	8
	Rationalism	9
	Knowledge of existence	10
	Innate knowledge	10
	Knowledge as a deductive system	12
	Contrasts with empiricism	13
	Empiricism	14
	No innate ideas or knowledge	14
	The rejection of reason?	15
	Reason cannot prove the existence of anything	16

Knowledge and justification	17
Quantity and quality of evidence	19
Predictive and explanatory power	19
Reasonableness and probability	20
Reliable methods of belief acquisition	20
Foundational pieces of knowledge	21
Coherence	23
The tripartite definition of knowledge	26
Knowledge and scepticism	28
Philosophical doubt	28
Global scepticism	29
Externalism and internalism about knowledge	31
The argument from illusion	32
Dreaming	34
Deception	35
Knowledge and the external world	36
Realism	36
Idealism	38
Phenomenalism	40
References	41
Recommended reading	41
Glossary	42

2 MORAL PHILOSOPHY (UNIT 2)	Michael Lacewing	44
Introduction		44
Normative ethics		46
Deontological views		46
God and duty		46
Kant: duties are determined by reason		48
Criticisms of Kant's theory		49
Utilitarianism		50
Hedonistic and ideal utilitarianism		51
Preference and negative utilitarianism		52
Act and rule utilitarianism		53

Virtue theory	54
Plato's theory	55
Aristotle's theory	55
Criticisms of virtue theory	57
Practical ethics	58
Euthanasia	58
Types of euthanasia	59
When, if at all, is euthanasia justified?	59
Abortion	62
What is the moral status of the fetus?	62
On what other grounds, if any, might abortion be permissible?	64
Animal rights	65
Peter Singer: a utilitarian argument	65
Deontological arguments	66
An argument from virtue ethics	67
Meta-ethics: cognitivism	68
Intuitionism	69
Moore and the naturalistic fallacy	69
'Intuition'	70
Ross and prima facie duties	70
Moral realism	72
Facts and values	72
Moral facts are reasons	73
Associated problems	75
Three quick objections	75
Three long objections	76
Meta-ethics: non-cognitivism	78
Emotivism	78
The principle of verification and Ayer's theory	78
Stevenson's theory	80
Prescriptivism	81
Prescriptive meaning	82
How moral language works	83
Prescriptivism and emotivism	84
Associated problems	85
What is the role of reason in ethics?	85

Form and content	85
Nihilism	87
Moral progress	89
References	90
Recommended reading	91
Glossary	92

3 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION (UNIT 2)	Elizabeth Burns	94
Introduction		94
The meaning and justification of religious concepts		95
Conceptions of God		95
Personal		95
Omnipresent		96
Creator and sustainer of the universe		96
Transcendent		97
Omniscient		97
Omnipotent		98
Perfectly good		100
Combining God's attributes		100
The nature of religious language		101
Religious language as analogical		101
Verification		102
<i>The 'strong' verification principle</i>		102
<i>The 'weak' verification principle</i>		103
<i>Responses to the verification principle</i>		103
Falsification		104
<i>Flew and falsification</i>		104
<i>Hare's objection to falsification</i>		105
<i>Mitchell's response</i>		105
Language-games		106
<i>Objections to the application of the language-game theory to religious belief</i>		107
Arguments for the existence of God		108
The cosmological argument		109
Aquinas' cosmological arguments		109
Objections to the cosmological argument		109

The teleological argument	110
Design in the sense of purpose	111
Design in the sense of regularity	112
Hume's objections	112
Further objections	114
<i>The argument from purpose</i>	114
<i>The argument from regularity</i>	115
The argument from religious experience	116
What is a religious experience?	116
<i>Types of religious experience</i>	116
<i>The characteristics of mystical experience</i>	117
Can we use religious experience to prove God's existence?	117
<i>The Principle of Credulity</i>	117
<i>The Principle of Testimony</i>	119
Responses to the Principle of Credulity	120
<i>The Negative Principle of Credulity</i>	121
Responses to the Principle of Testimony	121
The ontological argument	122
Anselm's ontological argument(s)	122
Gaunilo's objection	123
Descartes's ontological argument	123
Kant's objections to Descartes	123
The ontological argument and non-realism	124
Faith, reason and belief	125
Pascal's wager	126
Objections to Pascal's wager	126
Reformed epistemology	128
Plantinga	128
The Great Pumpkin objection	129
Objections to Reformed epistemology	130
Fideism	130
Objections to fideism	131
The implications of God's existence	132
The problem of evil	132
The Free Will Defence	133
Responses to the Free Will Defence	135
Hick's Irenaean theodicy	135
Responses to Hick	137

The 'reasonableness of the existence of God' defence	138
Miracles	138
Objections to belief in miracles defined as coincidences or inexplicable events	139
Hume's objections to belief in miracles defined as violations of laws of nature	140
Comments on Hume's definition of miracle	140
Replies to Hume's objections	141
<i>The possibility of miracles</i>	141
<i>The reliability of testimony</i>	141
<i>Conflicting accounts</i>	142
A further objection	142
Religion and morality: divine command ethics	143
Objections to divine command ethics	144
References	145
Recommended reading	146
Glossary	147

4 PHILOSOPHY OF MIND (UNIT 4)	Janice Thomas	149
Introduction		150
Approaches to mentality and the nature of mind		150
Distinguishing the mental from the physical		150
Lack of spatial features		151
Privileged access		151
Subjectivity		151
Intentionality		152
Anomalousness		152
Theories concerning the nature of mind		154
Dualism		154
<i>Substance dualism</i>		154
<i>Property dualism</i>		156
Materialism		156
<i>Behaviourism</i>		156
<i>Identity theory</i>		158
<i>Functionalism</i>		160
<i>Other theories</i>		162

The mind/body problem	163
The relationship between mentality and physicality	163
The appearance of mind/body interaction	164
Occasionalism	164
Epiphenomenalism	165
Parallelism	165
Interactionism	165
Mental causation	166
Behaviourism again	166
Identity theories and functionalism again	167
Knowledge of self and self-consciousness	169
Privacy and the meaning of psychological terms	169
Self-knowledge and self-consciousness	171
Knowledge of others	173
The problem of other minds	173
Flexibility and language use	174
The Turing Test	175
The Chinese room	176
Defeating the other minds sceptic	177
The argument from analogy	177
Inference to the best explanation	178
Persons	180
What is a person?	181
The problem of personal identity over time	183
Two meanings of 'criterion'	183
Two kinds of identity	184
Bodily continuity	184
Psychological continuity	185
Conclusion	187
References	188
Recommended reading	188
Glossary	189

5 POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY (UNIT 4)	Patrick Riordan	191
Introduction		191
Descriptive and normative philosophy		194
Ideologies		195
Ideologies, practical and theoretical		196
Ideologies: individualist or communal		197
Liberalism		198
Socialism		199
Communitarianism		199
Nationalism		200
Anarchism		200
Freedom		201
Negative and positive freedom		201
Constitutive and regulative rules		202
Rights		205
Balancing individuals' interests and the common good		207
Mill's harm principle		208
Law		208
Minimalist theories of law		208
Maximalist theories of law		209
Unjust law		210
Civil disobedience		210
Conflict and protest		211
Punishment		212
Internal deterrence		213
External deterrence		213
Social protection		213
Reform, rehabilitation		214
Retribution, restoration		214
Authority		216
Power		216
Authority		217
Legitimacy		219
Obligation		221
The state		223
Government		224
Political and non-political forms of rule		224
The state's functions and services		225

State provision of social welfare	227
References	228
Recommended reading	229
Glossary	229

6 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (UNIT 4)	Nicholas Wilson	233
Introduction		233
Scientific method		234
The role of observation, experiment and measurement in science		234
Induction		235
Inductive reasoning		235
The Problem of Induction		236
Attempted solutions		237
<i>An inductive principle</i>		237
<i>Inductive arguments for induction</i>		238
<i>Using probability</i>		238
<i>Rational by definition</i>		238
Deduction		239
Deductive reasoning		239
The hypothetico-deductive method of confirmation		241
The nature of scientific development		242
Reductionism		242
Falsificationism		244
Relativism		246
Scientific knowledge and the aims of science		248
Realism and instrumentalism		248
Scientific laws		251
Laws as necessary connections		251
Laws as constant conjunctions		252
The aims of science		254
The objectivity of science		257
Problems concerning observation and categorisation		257
Problems concerning methodology		259
Problems concerning research		260

Natural and social science	263
Similarities and differences	263
Methodology, theory-formation and confirmation	263
Explanation	264
Objectivity	264
Social relativism	265
References	266
Recommended reading	266
Glossary	267

7 PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION	Michael Lacewing	269
Introduction		269
Revision: knowing what the examiners are looking for		269
The structure of the exams		273
AS exams		273
A2 exams		274
Understanding the question: giving the examiners what they want		275
Key words		275
Question structure		276
Exam technique: getting the best result you can		277
Revision tips		280
Exam tips		281
Marking scheme		282
AS		282
A2		282
Index		283