

Philosophy Subject Guide

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Philosophy (from the Greek, philosophia) literally means the love of wisdom. This discipline studies the nature of the world and human conduct and the basis for human knowledge. Among the major areas of study in philosophy are logic, metaphysics (study of being or reality), epistemology (origin and nature of human knowledge), aesthetics (evaluative study of beauty, often as applied in the arts), and ethics. This guide is designed to be an entry into the study of philosophy and provides information on useful resources available in the Azusa Pacific University libraries. Resource collections in philosophy may be reviewed by key ideas, personalities, cultures, and time periods.

Introductory Resources

- ***Subject Introduction***

A good introductory review of philosophy and key concepts which might be helpful in your studies is:

Chronological and Thematic Charts of Philosophies and Philosophers

Milton D. Hunnex

Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1986

[BD21 .H725 1986](#)

- ***Reference Books***

These works may provide introductory and background information related to your topic. Look for bibliographies within the articles to help you find additional resources.

A Companion to the Philosophers (Blackwell Companions to Philosophy)

Robert L. Arrington, ed.

Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 1999

[B72 .C595 1999](#)

A Companion to the Philosophers includes signed articles that are arranged by cultures, such as African, Chinese, European, Islamic, etc.

The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy

Robert L. Audi, ed.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995

[B41 .C35 1995](#)

Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy
Edward Craig, ed.
London: Routledge, 1998
[B51 .R68 1998](#) (vs 1-10)

Encyclopedia of Philosophy
Paul Edwards, ed.
New York, NY: Macmillan Press, 1967
[B41 .E5 1967](#) (vs 1-8)

Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Supplement
New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 1996
[B41 .E5 1996 suppl](#)

The *Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Supplement* is related to the 8-volume work listed above it.

Dictionary of World Philosophy
A. Pablo Iannone
London: Routledge, 2001
[B41 .I26 2001](#)

Stamps Theological Library has a variety of dictionaries and companion volumes related to specific philosophers and time periods. You can search for these by the name of the philosopher and adding the term encyclopedias. Here is an example:

Augustine, Saint, Bishop of Hippo – Encyclopedias

With this search, you will locate a very helpful encyclopedia on Augustine:

Augustine through the Ages: An Encyclopedia
Allan D. Fitzgerald, ed.
Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999
[B655 .Z69 A84 1999](#)

Find Books & Media

Resources in the APU University Libraries can be found by using the [APOLIS2](#) online catalog.

- **LC Subject Headings & Call Number Ranges**

Philosophy (General works)	B 1-5802
Logic	BC 1-199
Metaphysics	BD 95-131
Knowledge, Theory of (Epistemology)	BD 143-237
Ontology	BD 300-450

[Cosmology](#)
[Aesthetics](#)
[Ethics](#)

[BD 493-701](#)
[BH 1-301](#)
[BJ 1-1725](#)

When searching for philosophers/scholars in the Catholic Church, many times the preferred subject heading starts with their first name. A good example is St. Thomas Aquinas, who is searched as:

Thomas, Aquinas, Saint, 1225?-1274

Most authors in the subject field will include the birth and death dates, if known. This can be especially helpful if two individuals have similar names and the time period is then the clue you use to locate the correct person.

- **Books**

The following books may provide a background or introduction to your subject:

A Brief History of Western Philosophy
Anthony Kenny
Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1998
[B72 .K44 1998](#)

Philosophy 1: A Guide through the Subject
Philosophy 2: Further Through the Subject
A.C. Grayling, ed.
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998
[BD21 .P468 1998](#)
[BD21 .P469 1998](#)

Philosophy 1 and *Philosophy 2* present overview essays on major themes and key thinkers in philosophy.

Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction
Edward Craig
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002
[B74 .C83 2002](#)

Classics of Philosophy
Louis P. Pojman, ed.
New York: Oxford University Press, 1998
[B21 .C557 1998](#) (vs 1-2)

Philosophy: The Classics
Nigel Warburton
London: Routledge, 1998
[B52 .W37 1998](#)

Although the books highlighted represent themes in western philosophy, the Stamps Theological Library has growing resources in non-western philosophical traditions as well. These may be located by searching the culture or religious background, such as:

Classic Asian Philosophy: A Guide to the Essential Texts
Joel J. Kupperman
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001
[B121 .K85 2001](#)

- ***Media by Subject***

The media collections below have interviews with famous philosophers discussing a variety of subjects. Selecting one of the tapes in the series may be helpful in grasping a difficult concept. All of the media collections are housed in the Marshburn (MML) Library. Complete lists of the contents of these series are found with the item record in APOLIS.

Great Ideas of Philosophy I & II (13 DVD series)
Films for the Humanities, 2005
[B72 .G743 2005](#)

Modern Philosophy (16 videotape series)
BBC/Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1997
[B791 .M65 1997](#)

The *Modern Philosophy* videotapes are comprised of interviews first aired on the BBC in 1976 with prominent 20th century philosophers.

[Philosophy](#)
[Logic](#)
[Metaphysics](#)
[Knowledge, Theory of](#) (Epistemology)
[Ontology](#)
[Cosmology](#)
[Ethics](#)

- **Subject Bibliographies**

Philosophy: A Guide to the Reference Literature

Hans E. Bynagle

Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1997

[Z7125 .B97 1997](#)

World Philosophy: A Contemporary Bibliography

John R. Burr and Charlotte A. Burr, eds.

Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1993

[Z7125 .W87 1993](#)

The Collaborative Bibliography of Women in Philosophy

Noel Hutchings and William D. Rumsey, eds.

Bowling Green, OH: Philosophy Documentation Center, 1997

[B105 .W6 C65 1997](#)

- **Resources in Non-APU Libraries**

[LINK+](#)

LINK+ is a single catalog for 40+ California libraries that have a cooperative borrowing and lending arrangement for books only. This service is for APU faculty, staff and students, and is free. Items usually come within 2-3 work days.

[WorldCat](#)

WorldCat is a single catalog for hundreds of North American and international libraries. Books and other library resources may be requested from this catalog through the [interlibrary loan](#) service. This service is for APU faculty, staff and students, and costs \$2.00 per item requested. Items usually come within 7-10 work days.

Find Journal Articles

Resources in the APU University Libraries can be found by using the [APOLIS2](#) online catalog. Besides the print collection of journals, you may also obtain journal articles through many of APU Libraries' [online databases](#).

- **Journals**

The APU Libraries currently receive 92 journals in the fields of philosophy, many of which are available electronically. The indexes to the philosophy journals are all electronic resources, so this is your best starting place.

Title	Available Formats
Faith and Philosophy: The Journal of the Society of Christian Philosophers	Print
Journal of Philosophical Research	Print Online
Journal of the History of Ideas	Print Online
Mind: A Quarterly Review of Philosophy	Print Online
Philosophy East & West	Print Online

- **Databases**

For a description of each database, go to the [online resources page](#) and look up the database by title.

[Academic Search Premier](#)
[Philosopher's Index](#)
[ProQuest Religion](#)
[Project Muse](#)
[Poeisis](#)

Several databases overlap philosophy, religion and theology and these may also be excellent resources to review:

[ATLA Religion Database with ATLAS](#)
[Catholic Periodical Literature Index](#)
[Index to Jewish Periodical Literature](#)
[Christian Periodical Index](#)

The following two databases include the full text of books of many important philosophical and/or religious works:

[Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts](#)
[Past Masters](#)

Both of the databases above include search fields – in Past Masters, it looks a bit like a concordance feature. You can search within a book or author, such as a search on “Augustine” and “predestination,” to determine every place Augustine mentions this concept, and links to the text to view it in context.

- **Getting Journal Articles**

[Periodical Finder](#)

Sometimes while using a database, article records are found without any corresponding full-text article. Use Periodical Finder to see whether or not the article can be found in full-text in a different database. It can also be used to look up the full-text availability of items found in bibliographies.

[Articles not at APU](#)

If a journal article is unavailable in either the print journal collection or one of the online databases, it can be requested through the [interlibrary loan](#) service.

Internet Resources

- **Professional Organizations and/or Government Agency Websites**

[American Catholic Philosophical Association](#)

[American Philosophical Association](#)

[Evangelical Philosophical Society](#)

[Society of Christian Philosophers](#)

[Wesleyan Philosophical Society](#)

[Philosophy Organizations](#)

This is a huge listing of philosophy organizations, and is searchable by both topic and philosopher.

Many societies exist to study the works of specific philosophers and scholars. To view a list of these societies, go to the Wabash site listed below and click on "Thinker-related Societies."

- **Other Websites**

[Carnegie-Mellon University: Philosophy](#)

This site contains links to classic texts and to philosophy associations.

[Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)

The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy is a collection of original articles contributed by specialized philosophers around the Internet, and are identifiable by the author's name at the foot of the article.

[Internet Medieval Sourcebook](#)

The Internet Medieval Sourcebook is a large collection of primary source documents and other online resources dating from the end of the Roman Empire through the Reformation and beyond.

[Online Books Page](#)

This site has links to more than 25,000 full text books, including many in philosophy and theology. The site is searchable by author, title or subject.

[Philosophers Web Index](#)

This site provides links to resources on the web on 188 philosophers and may be viewed through an alphabetical or timeline list.

[Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy is a high-quality online reference resource, with refereed entries maintained and kept up to date by an expert or group of experts in the field.

[Virtual Library of Christian Philosophy](#)

This site includes articles by Christian philosophers representing primarily a Reformed perspective.

[Virtual Religion Index](#)

This site includes an extensive index to resources in philosophy and theology.

[Wabash Center Internet Guide](#)

This site has indexes to the best of the web in philosophy, religion, and theology. It's one of my favorite Internet resources and is kept up to date.

- ***Free Online Journals***

[Directory of Open Access Journals: Philosophy & Religion](#)

This is a list of 49 free online journals in the fields of philosophy and religion.

[Quodlibet: The Online Journal of Philosophy and Theology](#)