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Metaphysics: An Introduction





Synopsis

Metaphysics: An Introduction combines comprehensive coverage of the core elements of metaphysics with contemporary and lively debates within the subject. It provides a rigorous and yet accessible overview of a rich array of topics, connecting the abstract nature of metaphysics with the real world. Topics covered include: Basic logic for metaphysics An introduction to ontology Abstract objects Material objects Critiques of metaphysics Free will Time Modality Persistence Causation Social ontology: the metaphysics of race This outstanding book not only equips the reader with a thorough knowledge of the fundamentals of metaphysics but provides a valuable guide to contemporary metaphysics and metaphysicians. Additional features such as exercises, annotated further reading, a glossary, and a companion website www.routledge.com/cw/ney will help students find their way around this subject and assist teachers in the classroom.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a student of Professor Ney's at the University of Rochester, we used this book immediately after it was published for our Metaphysics class. I was relieved at how this book approached the subject of Metaphysics: thoughtfully, carefully, and assuming nothing. It even has a logic primer at the beginning to get the reader accustomed to first order predicate logic. Professor Ney's penchant for Philosophy of Time is quite apparent in this publication as that chapter is one of the best I have read as an introduction to the topic. The subject later became the topic for my presentation that semester, and this book, with its suggested readings and in depth look at major thinkers in each subject, was indispensable in guiding my research along. Also key to the usefulness of this book are short, concise definitions of important terms and concepts in the margin. This makes reading, for metaphysics neophyte (such as myself), a bit less daunting. Ney has a particular ability to make the subject accessible to the serious student of Philosophy, and I have a feeling that this text will become seminal in broaching the area of study in a good amount of departments. Now, if only the graphics people at Routledge would put a full beard on the David Lewis stick figures, we'd be in business. :)

Excellent introductory text to Metaphysics. Ney does a brilliant job of explaining some rather deep and obscure topics in easily understandable ways. It probably helps to have taken an introductory philosophy course, but aside from a basic acquaintance with some philosophical terminology, Ney presupposes nothing. There's a whole chapter on the logic needed for the book, along with helpful boxes throughout that give a more in-depth look.

amazing book for my class, love it

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