

Descartes | Spinoza | Leibniz early modern rationalism

Selected Bibliography

Books with an asterisk (*) are available at the OUDCE library at Rewley House. Books marked with '@' have online editions that you can access at the library. The classmarks are 194DES for Descartes, 199.492SPI for Spinoza, and 193LEI for Leibniz. Books in **boldface** are work editions.

Rationalism

- Cottingham, J. (1988). *The Rationalists*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.* [very readable and informative]
- Phemister, P. (2006). *The Rationalists*. Cambridge: Polity Press.* [accessible and informative]
- Zalta, E. N. (Ed.) *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)*. Available online at <http://plato.stanford.edu>. [general entries on Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz; and also specific entries on various aspects of their philosophies; excellent free resource with broad coverage; advanced]

Descartes

- Broughton, J. (2002). *Descartes's Method of Doubt*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.* [detailed scholarly study]
- Broughton, J. & Carriero, J. (Eds.) (2011). *A Companion to Descartes*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. @ [informative collection of brief articles; advanced]
- Carriero, J. (2009). *Between Two Worlds. A Reading of Descartes's Meditations*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.* [detailed study; for scholars]
- Cottingham, J., Stoothoff, R. & Murdoch, D. (Eds.) (1985). *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes (2 vols.)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.***
- Cottingham, J. (1986). *Descartes*. Oxford: Blackwell.* [accessible introduction]
- Cottingham, J. (Ed.) (1992). *The Cambridge Companion to Descartes*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.* @ [informative collection of articles; advanced]
- Frankfurt, H. (2008/1970). *Demons, Dreamers, and Madmen. A Defense of Reason in Descartes's Meditations*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.* [classic study; difficult]
- Gaukroger, S. (Ed.) (2006). *The Blackwell Guide to Descartes' Meditations*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing. [Articles on selected aspects; accessible]
- Hatfield G. (2003). *Routledge Philosophy Guidebook to Descartes and the Meditations*. London: Routledge.* [informative and accessible reading aid]
- Rozemond, M. (1998). *Descartes's Dualism*. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press.* [detailed but accessible study]
- Williams, B. (1978). *Descartes. The Project of Pure Enquiry*. London: Penguin.* [classic study; demanding]

- Wilson, C. (2003). *Descartes's Meditations. An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.* [very readable reading aid]
- Wilson, M. (1978). *Descartes*. London: Routledge.* [classic interpretation]

Spinoza

- Curley, E. (1988). *Behind the Geometrical Method. A Reading of Spinoza's Ethics*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.* [scholarly yet accessible]
- Curley, E. (Ed.) (1994). *The Spinoza Reader. The Ethics and Other Works*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.***
- Della Rocca, M. (2008). *Spinoza*. London: Routledge. [excellent general introduction]
- Garrett, D. (Ed.) (1996). *The Cambridge Companion to Spinoza*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.* @ [informative collection of articles; advanced]
- Koistinen, O. (Ed.) (2009). *The Cambridge Companion to Spinoza's Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. @ [informative collection of articles; advanced]
- Nadler, S. (2006). *Spinoza's Ethics. An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [excellent reading aid]
- Scruton, R. (2002). *Spinoza: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.* [slim and readable]

Leibniz

- Ariew, R. & Garber, D. (Eds.) (1989). *G. W. Leibniz. Philosophical Essays*. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing.** [collection of Leibniz's key works]
- Jolley, N. (Ed.) (1995). *The Cambridge Companion to Leibniz*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. @ [advanced collection of articles]
- Jolley, N. (2005). *Leibniz*. London: Routledge. [excellent general introduction]
- Nadler, S. (2008). *The Best of All Possible Worlds. A Story of Philosophers, God, and Evil in the Age of Reason*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. [highly readable account of Leibniz's years in Paris, meeting Arnauld and Malebranche]
- Savile, A. (2000). *Routledge Philosophy Guidebook to Leibniz and the Monadology*. London: Routledge. [informative reading aid]
- Stewart, M. (2005). *The Courtier and the Heretic. Leibniz, Spinoza, and the Fate of God in the Modern World*. New Haven: Yale University Press. [when Leibniz met Spinoza in 1676; enjoyable and informative]
- Woolhouse, R. & Francks, R. (Eds.) (1998). *G. W. Leibniz. Philosophical Texts*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.** [collection of Leibniz's central works]

