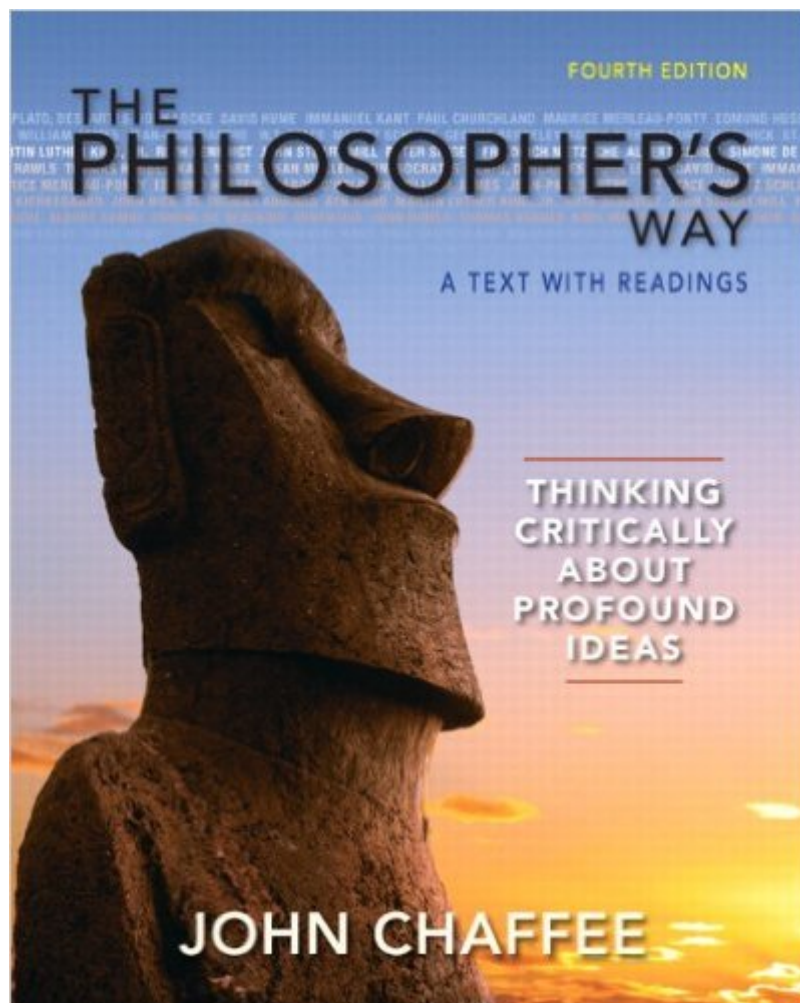


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The Philosopher's Way: Thinking Critically About Profound Ideas Fourth Edition (MyThinkingLab Series)



Synopsis

Students learn to critically think about philosophy. The Philosopher's Way inspires students to think like a philosopher, helping them become more accomplished critical thinkers and develop the analytical tools needed to think philosophically about important issues. This text features readings from major philosophical texts and commentary to guide students in their understanding of the topics. It is organized by questions central to the main branches of philosophy and examines the ideas of philosophers past and present. A better teaching and learning experience This program will provide a better teaching and learning experience for you and your students. Here's how: Improve Critical Thinking Critical thinking features challenge students to go beyond their reading and explore the connections philosophy has in their everyday lives. Engage Students Full-color visuals bring topics to life, and writing examples give students a foundation for their own philosophical exploration. Support Instructors Instructor's Manual, Test Bank, MyTest, and PowerPoint slides are available to be packaged with this text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've used this textbook in both the first and second edition, but have decided that I won't use it again. I generally liked the first edition, but this second edition was inferior. First, the CD-ROM with the primary readings has been made more difficult to use. Many of the entries no longer open a text box on the screen but take you to a website with numerous options, making the precise reading assignments difficult to find unless you want to assign the whole text of something really long.

Besides, if all these primary sources are already on the internet, why should we all pay extra to buy the CD-ROM? Second, the book is organized in a confusing way. As someone who likes to teach the development of Western philosophy from Ancient Greece until today, there was no straightforward way to teach this. You have to jump around topic to topic. (OK, I acknowledge that some people like the topical approach so maybe this is just a personal preference) Third, it is pretty obvious from reading the book which views the author prefers. I consider this to be inappropriate in an intro level book. So, while there are some good things about the book such as its attempted breadth, I'll be using something else next time.

I read this for enjoyment, not for a class. I found the topics suited to an entry-level philosophy student, but for this purpose it does a good job of explaining the central viewpoints from which philosophers can approach a subject. That said, these types of entry-level books are better when they include a chronological approach to philosophy. I saw jumps between topics and even within topics which seemed to ignore hundreds of years of thinking and debate. As a cursory overview, this book delivers. As a middle-level book, the writing begins to falter. Seasoned philosophers will probably want to stay away from this one.

The 2nd Edition is riddled with typos, about one every two pages. This is annoying because they tend to appear right in a sentence where the author is driving home a point or asking a critical question. Aside from that, it's a fun read, but some sections are far beyond the reading comprehension of beginning college students. At times, the author makes better sense of a long passage with his remarks and synthesis, while the context of the excerpts sometimes just do not come together. I have to commend the author for picking some "choice" images for the margins to keep a sleepy reader alert. These include: the gradation of skin color changes over Michael Jackson's career span, death photos of Malcolm X, people picking through garbage, planes flying into the twin towers, etc.. I get the sense that the author is a cynical yet intelligent man, which is why the book works for me regardless of typos and small context issues.

The book is in great shape and the price was unbelievable. My PHIL 191 class required the 5th edition but I took a chance and order this instead, my professor was fine with me using this edition instead and I saved a bunch of money in the process. Thank you!

If it was possible to give a 0 rating would, my book arrived and it appears some pages were burned.

The burned pages are falling apart every time I turn a page. This is unacceptable to give a student.

I bought this book for my philosophy class at my college. It really makes you think about things you've never considered before. My husband and I are going through it now, as a couple. It's great for philosophy discussions, if you're into that sort of thing.

This book is actually written pretty well. I needed this for my philosophy class and thought it was going to be a dull book from the looks of it. But inside the examples and the overall structure of the book are well defined and written.

I have to say that I am very lucky to have Dr. Chaffee as my honors philosophy class professor. Being that this is his text book, he explains in more detail the information in this book. The book itself presents the views of multiple philosophers throughout history, and their contributions to the field of philosophy.

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