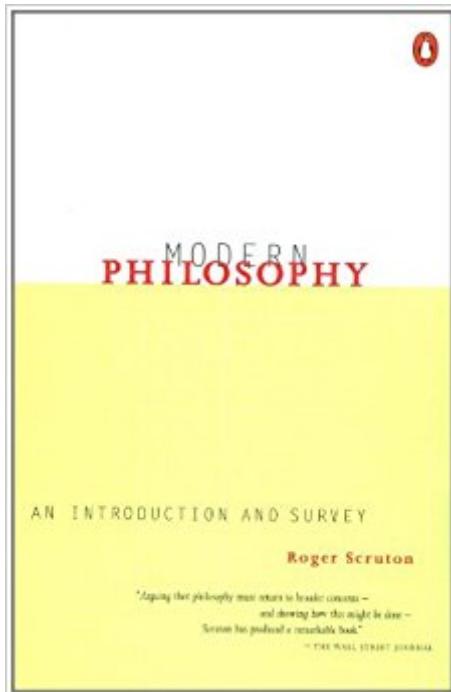


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# Modern Philosophy: An Introduction And Survey



## **Synopsis**

Philosopher Roger Scruton offers a wide-ranging perspective on philosophy, from logic to aesthetics, written in a lively and engaging way that is sure to stimulate debate. Rather than producing a survey of an academic discipline, Scruton reclaims philosophy for worldly concerns.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 624 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books; Reprint edition (October 1, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140249079

ISBN-13: 978-0140249071

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1.3 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #404,390 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Methodology #177 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Reference #1009 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Modern

## **Customer Reviews**

Roger Scruton is the author of a number of books, including *Modern Philosophy* and *A Short History of Philosophy*. Formerly Professor of Aesthetics at Birkbeck College, London University, and a visiting professor at Boston University, he lives in Wiltshire, England.

Solid introduction but some sections and the way the subject matter is described is somewhat convoluted. Perhaps this is true of all "introduction" books since it will always will be almost impossible to precisely understand what philosophers that lived a long time ago originally really meant to say precisely unless you are able to ask for clarification on a subject matter like Philosophy which is by nature a very difficult and challenging subject (but very rewarding) to understand completely. The language of their descriptions will in many ways remain shrouded in mystery. This is especially true when authors (even the best and most talented philosophers) attempt to translate original philosophical texts of the great Philosophy masters not just into English but also in way to make the subject matter easy for the novice to comprehend. It seems like an almost impossible tasks but Dr. Scruton succeeds with spectacular results in many areas in his wonderful book but is less somewhat successful in other areas. The original meaning and context of what is written in the

original text will never be exactly the same in English and vice versa. Short of learning the original language of the Great Philosophers, this is best and the closest that a lay person will ever come to being able to understand the subject of Philosophy which has brought me so much joy throughout the years and has expanded my mind immensely to understanding myself, people, things, and the world in so many different contexts too numerous and difficult to explain in this review. Dr. Scruton makes a unapproachable topic more palatable to digest in more delicious bite size morsels. A great book on a very complicated topic. Modern Philosophy is a great "intro" to really understand what Philosophy is and what it is all about. Highly recommended.

Sir Roger is one of a kind: unbelievably talented Philosopher, Opera composer, Historian, Novelist,.. Spiritual Teacher n- Just AMAZING!!!The present book is an outstanding contribution to the unsuspecting student fearing the worst and found herself (sic!) confronted by this little jewel! If you even THINKING about reading it BUY IT now!

This book leaves me with mixed emotions. On the positive side, it's the only book I know of its kind, covering almost every topic of modern philosophy. And, for the most part, it is highly accessible and remarkably clear (philosophy of language can be opaque, but that's inherent in the field). On the con side, not enough attention is paid to ethics and politics (Scruton himself is somewhat of a conservative/communitarian), and the topic of aesthetics could have been more informative. Another con is that Scruton tells the reader in advance that his own opinion will seep into the discussion, but that he'll designate it as such. Well, yes, his opinion does creep in, but it's rarely distinguished as his own. Yet, for all these quibbles, I cannot imagine a better introduction to the discipline of philosophy as it is practiced in Anglo-American circles - but without the arcane and often obtuse language. It is remarkably broad in scope, accurate in depiction, clearly mapped, and fairly thorough for an overview. If one wants an introduction into how Angophone philosophy is practiced, I cannot recommend a better book.

If you want to contrast modern (From XV,XVI) philosopher's ideas (Author's included) I think this book is a good work. You'll avoid the, to me too much, work of going one by one; Easy to learn this way.

very simple and clear, but a little hard!!!

Great survey. Presupposes at least a basic familiarity with philosophy.

excellent!

Covers classic and modern general aspects of 'received' philosophical viewpoints, in a moderately difficult reading; Looking forward to finishing it;

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