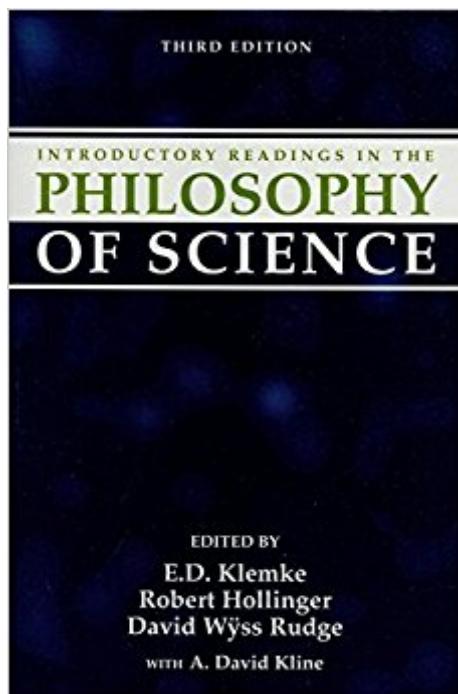


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Introductory Readings In The Philosophy Of Science



Synopsis

For nearly two decades, "Introductory Readings in the Philosophy of Science" has distinguished itself as the standard for texts specifically designed to meet the needs of beginning students. Retaining the best essays from the first two editions, the editors have added ten important new selections to maintain this influential text's relevance for today and tomorrow. Readings cover such timely and important topics as feminism and the sciences, the effects of science on society, the natural versus the social sciences, and science and human values. There are also new study questions and case studies, updated section introductions, revised select bibliographies for each section, and a valuable appendix for instructors.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...a useful entry into the fundamental questions in traditional philosophy of science." -- Quarterly Review of Biology, June, 2000 "Students, teachers and researchers in the field of philosophy will find this text very helpful." -- Educational Book Review, India, March 2000 "great introduction for students, encouraging their study of the frontiers of science and the important of its relationship to philosophy." -- Tech Directions, August/September, 2001

The late E. D. Klemke was professor of philosophy at Iowa State University. Robert Hollinger is professor of philosophy at Iowa State University. David Wyss Rudge is assistant professor of the philosophy of biology at Iowa State. A. David Kline is provost and vice president for academic affairs

at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

This is a large sampling of articles on the philosophy of science grouped into: part 1 Science and Pseudoscience, part 2 the natural and social sciences, 3 explanation and law, 4 theory and observation, 5 confirmation and acceptance, 6 science and values. Articles were written by the following philosophers: Rudolf Carnap, Nancy Cartwright, Brian Fay and J. Donald Moon, Paul Feyerabend, Philipp G. Frank, Ronald Giere, N R Hanson, Carl Hempel, Philip Kitcher, Thomas Kuhn, karel Lambert, Gordon Britten, Fritz Machlup, Ernan McMullin, Carl Matheson, David Kline, Grover Maxwell, Karl Popper, Hilary Putnam, W V Quine, J S Ullian, Alexander Rosenberg, Richard Rudner, Wesley Salmon, W T Stace, Charles Taylor, Paul Thagard, Hugh Tomlinson, Stephen Toulmin, Bas van Fraassen, John Ziman. The articles are technical and very interesting. I think every philosopher should study these articles, and the philosophy of science should be a part of the general educational curriculum for everyone. Each part has a 1 case study at the end, and 2 study questions and 3 selected bibliography. There are a few pages for advice to instructors in an appendix.

I really like the book and information presented -- good at opening your mind to concepts in science you didn't realize were debated about. A bit dense at times and harder to understand but a very good collection of essays.

I actually bought this book because it was required for a college course I was taking. I was surprised how easy the book was to read and follow. It is very informative and I would highly recommend it if you're at all interested in the subject.

A very good book. It has a great selection of classic readings. Hanson's Observation is one the most important and elucidating of the collection.

The was interesting but the class I had to get it for was not.

The third edition of this book, copyright 1998, is a strong but dated collection of essays in philosophy of science. Most of the essays were published in the 1950s through the mid-1980s, although there is a small number of essays from the 1990s. As such, the book is similar to ones that a student or scholar might have consulted in the late 1980s and is not the best choice for students

or scholars who need an up-to-date anthology. Nonetheless, for people who might supplement their reading of this book with more recent sources, this collection can provide a good foundation in the field. The book covers all the traditional, core areas of philosophy of science, as well as offering more readings than is typical on the social sciences. Yet, the essay on philosophy of economics is from 1983 and is largely outdated given the dramatic changes in economics and the global economy in the last three decades. In addition, the book shortchanges more radical critiques of philosophy of science by having, for instance, only one essay, from 1996, on feminist critiques of science. I also am disappointed that the volume does not include an excerpt from Thomas Kuhn's seminal book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Instead, the volume has one essay by Kuhn in which he responds to critics of the book, but that's not the best way for someone to be introduced to Kuhn's ideas. I would not recommend that professors adopt this anthology unless they used it in conjunction with something else that was more contemporary, but for those wanting an affordable option to round out their collection of essays in the subject, this book may fit the bill.

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