

The Oxford Handbook Of Philosophy Of Emotion

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Thinking about the Emotions
Thinking about Feeling
Emotion: The Basics
The Ontology of Emotions
Music and the Emotions
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The Emotions in Early Chinese Philosophy
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Emotions in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
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The Expression of Emotion
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this handbook presents thirty one state of the art contributions from the

most notable writers on philosophy of emotion today anyone working on the nature of emotion its history or its relation to reason self value or art whether at the level of research or advanced study will find the book an unrivalled resource and a fascinating read

the emotions are at the centre of our lives and for better or worse imbue them with much of their significance the philosophical problems stirred up by the existence of the emotions over which many great philosophers of the past have laboured revolve around attempts to understand what this significance amounts to are emotions feelings thoughts or experiences if they are experiences what are they experiences of are emotions rational in what sense do emotions give meaning to what surrounds us the emotions a philosophical introduction introduces and explores these questions in a clear and accessible way the authors discuss the following key topics the diversity and unity of the emotions the relations between emotion belief and desire the nature of values the relations between emotions and perceptions emotions viewed as evaluative attitudes the link between emotions and evaluative knowledge the nature of moods sentiments and character traits including chapter summaries and guides to further reading the emotions a philosophical introduction is an ideal starting point for any philosopher or student studying the emotions it will also be of interest to those in related disciplines such as psychology and the social sciences

philosophical reflection on the emotions has a long history stretching back to classical greek thought even though at times philosophers have marginalized or denigrated them in favour of reason fourteen leading philosophers here offer a broad survey of the development of our understanding of the emotions the thinkers they discuss include aristotle aquinas ockham descartes malebranche spinoza hobbes hume shaftesbury hutcheson kant schiller schopenhauer nietzsche james brentano stumpf scheler heidegger and sartre central issues include the taxonomy of the emotions the distinction between emotions passions feelings and moods the relation between the emotions and reason the

relationship between the self and the emotions at a metaphilosophical level the collection also raises issues about the value of historical study of the discipline and what light it can shed on contemporary concerns thinking about the emotions is a fascinating and illuminating collective study of how philosophers have grappled with this most intriguing part of our nature as beings who feel as well as think and act

philosophers since aristotle have explored emotion and the study of emotion has always been essential to the love of wisdom in recent years anglo american philosophers have rediscovered and placed new emphasis on this very old discipline the view that emotions are ripe for philosophical analysis has been supported by a considerable number of excellent publications in this volume robert solomon brings together some of the best anglo american philosophers now writing on the philosophy of emotion with chapters from philosophers who have distinguished themselves in the field of emotion research and have interdisciplinary interests particularly in the social and biological sciences the reader will find a lively variety of positions on topics such as the nature of emotion the category of emotion the rationality of emotions the relationship between an emotion and its expression the relationship between emotion motivation and action the biological nature versus social construction of emotion the role of the body in emotion the extent of freedom and our control of emotions the relationship between emotion and value and the very nature and warrant of theories of emotion in addition this book acknowledges that it is impossible to study the emotions today without engaging with contemporary psychology and the neurosciences and moreover engages them with zeal thus the essays included here should appeal to a broad spectrum of emotion researchers in the various theoretical experimental and clinical branches of psychology in addition to theorists in philosophy philosophical psychology moral psychology and cognitive science the social sciences and literary theory

while human beings might be rational animals they are emotional animals

as well emotions play a central role in all areas of our lives and if we are to have a proper understanding of human life and activity we ought to have a good grasp of the emotions michael s brady structures emotion the basics around two basic yet fundamental questions what are emotions and what do emotions do in answering these questions brady provides insight into a core component of all our lives covering the nature of emotion emotion knowledge and understanding emotion and action emotions and social groups emotion morality and art in this concise and insightful introduction brady explains why we are often better off as a result of emotion rather than reason being in the driving seat as our lives both individual and social would be significantly impoverished without the emotions with a glossary of key terms and suggestions for further reading emotion the basics is an ideal starting point for anyone seeking a full introduction to the philosophical study of emotion

a pioneering investigation into the nature of emotions bringing together important questions in ontology metaphysics and philosophy of mind leading scholars explore a neglected aspect of the philosophy of emotion paving the way for new advances in research this book will be important for those working in the field of emotions

it has often been claimed and frequently denied that music derives some or all of its artistic value from the relation in which it stands to the emotions this book presents and subjects to critical examination the chief theories about the relationship between the art of music and the emotions

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this book traces the genealogy of early chinese conceptions of emotions as part of a broader inquiry into evolving conceptions of self cosmos and the political order it seeks to explain what was at stake in early philosophical debates over emotions and why the mainstream conception of emotions became authoritative

this major volume of original essays maps the place of emotion in human nature through a discussion of the relation between consciousness and body by analysing the importance of emotion for human agency by pointing to the ways in which practical rationality may be enhanced as well as hindered by emotions and by exploring questions of value in making sense of emotions at a political ethical and personal level leading researchers in the field reflect on the nature of human feelings how and why we understand what other people feel and the way in which our values become involved in specific emotional phenomena such as guilt fear shame amusement or love this collection addresses important questions in the philosophy of mind and comments on the implications of research in biology cognitive psychology psychoanalysis and narrative theory for the philosophical understanding of emotions

philosophy music and emotion explores two issues which have been intensively debated in contemporary philosophy the nature of music s

power to express emotion and the nature of emotion itself it shows how closely the two topics are related and provides a radically new account of what it means to say that music expresses emotion geoffrey madell maintains that most current accounts of musical expressiveness are fundamentally misguided he attributes this fact to the influence of a famous argument of the nineteenth century critic hanslick and also to the dominant cognitivist approach to the nature of emotion which sees the essence of emotion to be the entertaining of evaluative judgements and beliefs of a certain sort an account very much in accord with hanslick s position such an approach results either in the unpersuasive view that musical expressiveness is somehow akin to human expressive gesture or in the view that music arouses feelings which have no specific object and unavoidably no necessary connection with the music the book argues that the cognitivist account of the nature of emotion is quite false and that it needs to be replaced with a conception of emotions as states of feeling towards states of intentional feeling whose objects are often evaluatively characterised states of affairs however in the context of the emotions that are aroused by music these objects are always musical events or states central to this bold analysis of emotion is a new account of two closely connected mental states those of desire and of pleasure and of what role these states have in human motivation and value

peter goldie opens the path to a deeper understanding of our emotional lives through a lucid philosophical exploration of this surprisingly neglected topic he illuminates the phenomena of emotion by drawing not only on philosophy but also on literature and science he considers the roles of culture and evolution in the development of our emotional capabilities he examines the links between emotion mood and character and places the emotions in the context of such related phenomena as consciousness thought feeling and imagination he explains how it is that we are able to make sense of our own and other people s emotions and how we can explain the very human things which emotions lead us to do a key theme of the emotions is the idea of a personal perspective or point of view

contrasted with the impersonal stance of the empirical sciences goldie argues that it is only from the personal point of view that thoughts reasons feelings and actions come into view he suggests that there is a tendency for philosophers to over intellectualize the emotions and investigates how far it is possible to explain emotions in terms of rationality over intellectualizing can also involve neglecting the centrality of feelings and goldie shows how to put them where they belong as part of the intentionality of emotional experience directed towards the world from a point of view goldie argues that the various elements of emotional experience including thought feeling bodily change and expression are tied together in a narrative structure to make sense of one's emotional life one has to see it as part of a larger unfolding narrative the narrative is not simply an interpretive framework of a life it is what that life is goldie concludes by applying these ideas in a close study of one particular emotion jealousy this fascinating book gives an accessible but penetrating exploration of a subject that is important but mysterious to all of us any reader interested in emotion and its role in our understanding of our lives will find much to think about here

the first part of the book covers the theories of the emotions of plato and aristotle and later ancient views from stoicism to neoplatonism ch 1 and their reception and transformation by early christian thinkers from clement and origen to gregory of nyssa cassian and augustine ch 2 the basic ancient alternatives were the compositional theories of plato and aristotle and their followers and the stoic judgement theory these were associated with different conceptions of philosophical therapy ancient theories were employed in early christian discussions of sin christian love mystical union and other forms of spiritual experience the most influential theological themes were the monastic idea of supernaturally caused feelings and augustine's analysis of the relations between the emotions and the will the first part of ch 3 deals with the twelfth century reception of ancient themes through monastic theological medical and philosophical literature the subject of the second part is the theory of emotions in avicenna's faculty psychology which to a great extent dominated the philosophical discussion

of emotions in early thirteenth century this approach was combined with aristotelian ideas in later thirteenth century particularly in thomas aquinas extensive taxonomical theory the increasing interest in psychological voluntarism led many franciscan authors to abandon the traditional view that emotions belong only to the lower psychosomatic level john duns scotus william ockham and their followers argued that there are also emotions of the will chapter 4 is about these new issues introduced in early fourteenth century discussions with some remarks on their influence on early modern thought

this innovative new volume analyses the role of emotions in knowledge acquisition it focuses on the field of philosophy of emotions at the exciting intersection between epistemology and philosophy of mind and cognitive science to bring us an in depth analysis of the epistemological value of emotions in reasoning with twelve chapters by leading and up and coming academics this edited collection shows that emotions do count for our epistemic enterprise against scepticism about the possible positive role emotions play in knowledge the authors highlight the how and the why of this potential lucidly exploring the key aspects of the functionality of emotions this is explored in relation to specific kinds of knowledge such as self understanding group knowledge and wisdom specific functions played by certain emotions in these cases such as disorientation in enquiry and contempt in practical reason the affective experience of the epistemic subjects and communities

treats the nature and ethical significance of emotions from a comparative cultural perspective emphasizing asian traditions

while philosophical speculation into the nature and value of emotions is at least as old as the pre socratics william james what is an emotion reinvigorated interest in the question coming to grips with james proposals particularly in the light of subsequent concerns for the difficulties inherent in a so called private language led philosophers away from analyses centred

on feelings to ones centred on thoughts analyzing the emotions in this way involves returning to a vision of the emotions that traces its ancestry back to the stoics but has proven to be enormously insightful and influential again in modern times the papers collected here centre on james question and often respond explicitly to one another together they provide a sense of what a cognitive view of the emotions maintains what it denies and how it has arisen the connection provides wide ranging coverage of the point of dispute amongst those impressed by the cognitive approach and gives a good sense too of the tremendous explanatory power of this view

in this provocative contribution to the philosophy of science and mind paul e griffiths criticizes contemporary philosophy and psychology of emotion for failing to take in an evolutionary perspective and address current work in neurobiology and cognitive science reviewing the three current models of emotion griffiths points out their deficiencies and constructs a basis for future models that pay equal attention to biological fact and conceptual rigor griffiths has written a work of depth and clarity in an area of murky ambiguity producing a much needed standard at the border of science philosophy and psychology as he presents his case offering a forthright critique of past and present theories griffiths touches on such issues as evolution social construction natural kinds categories corresponding with real distinctions in nature cognition and moods while addressing specialists the book will reward general readers who apply themselves to its remarkably accessible style library journal what emotions really are makes a strong claim to be one of the best books to have emerged on the subject of human emotion ray dolan nature

the expression of emotion collects cutting edge essays on emotional expression written by leading philosophers psychologists and legal theorists it highlights areas of interdisciplinary research interest including facial expression expressive action and the role of both normativity and context in emotion perception whilst philosophical discussion of emotional expression has addressed the nature of expression and its relation to action theory

psychological work on the topic has focused on the specific mechanisms underpinning different facial expressions and their recognition further work in both legal and political theory has had much to say about the normative role of emotional expressions but would benefit from greater engagement with both psychological and philosophical research in combining philosophical psychological and legal work on emotional expression the present volume brings these distinct approaches into a productive conversation

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Introduction

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