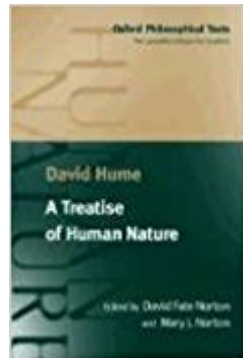


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# A Treatise Of Human Nature (Oxford Philosophical Texts)



## Synopsis

The Oxford Philosophical Texts series consists of truly practical and accessible guides to major philosophical texts in the history of philosophy from the ancient world up to modern times. Each book opens with a comprehensive introduction by a leading specialist which covers the philosopher's life, work, and influence. Endnotes, a full bibliography, guides to further reading, and an index are also included. The series aims to build a definitive corpus of key texts in the Western philosophical tradition, forming a reliable and enduring resource for students and teachers alike. David Hume's comprehensive attempt to base philosophy on a new, observationally grounded study of human nature is one of the most important texts in Western philosophy. It is also the focal point of current attempts to understand 18th-century philosophy. The Treatise first explains how we form such concepts as cause and effect, external existence, and personal identity, and how we create compelling but unverifiable beliefs in the entities represented by these concepts. It then offers a novel account of the passions, explains freedom and necessity as they apply to human choices and actions, and concludes with a detailed explanation of how we distinguish between virtue and vice. The volume features Hume's own abstract of the Treatise, a substantial introduction that explains the aims of the Treatise as a whole and of each of its ten parts, a comprehensive index, and suggestions for further reading.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

These new Oxford University Press editions have been meticulously collated from various extant

versions. Each text has an excellent introduction including an overview of Hume's thought and an account of his life and times. Even the difficult, and rarely commented-on, chapters on space and time are elucidated. There are also useful notes on the text and glossary. These scholarly new editions are ideally adapted for a whole range of readers, from beginners to experts.' Jane O'Grady, *Catholic Herald*, 4/8/00. One of the greatest of all philosophical works, covering knowledge, imagination, emotion, morality and justice. Hume is down-to-earth, capable of putting other, pretentious philosophers down, but deeply sceptical even about his own reasoning. Baroness Warnock, *The List*, *The Week* 18/11/2000

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groups all reviews together for different editions of the "same" book. What is missed is that different editions are really different books. These very brief comments refer to the print version of the Oxford Philosophical Text version of David Hume's *A Treatise of Human Nature*, edited by David Fate Norton and Mary J. Norton. This edition is a wonderful piece of scholarship, with illuminating commentary and notes. I found this edition to be especially helpful for my students. There is a long introductory essay, comments throughout the text, notes and a glossary. Even if you have the Selby-Bigge edition, every Hume scholar and serious student should add this to their library. Other than the Selby-Bigge and Oxford editions, avoid all other print editions. (By Oxford editions, I refer to this version and the version also edited by the Nortons under the Clarendon Series label.)

Must read book to study modern philosophy. This book surely changes your epistemology. In this book Hume strongly claims as following. "All our reasonings concerning causes and effects are derived from nothing but custom; and that belief is more properly an act of the sensitive, than of the cogitative part of our natures. "And also Hume strongly criticises what is called "induction". Even today some statements in this book are quite controversial, and this is a "must read book" when you study modern philosophy such as Karl Popper or Bertrand Russell.

It is simply brilliant. I don't think it really matters whether you agree or disagree with Hume on the subjects covered. The man is simple to read and clear, unlike others in the field (for me personally Kant is a pain to read). Be warned, while Hume is clear and easy to read, it is not always clear

where he personally stands on certain issues of language and semantics. This is partly due to the fact that he seemed not to care too much about this area of philosophy. Anyway, it's a fun read, a classic, and a necessary read in my opinion if you wanted to be taken seriously in philosophy.

Thank you

Great

We think we've come so far. People were thinking more deeply than you ever have, long before your great great great great etc grandparents were even conceived. Go back and learn some history punk.

The printing is so small, you will need a magnifying glass! It never should have been printed that way!

Challenging reading, but fascinating glimpse into 18th century world view

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