God and Other Minds; A Study Of The Rational Justification Of Belief In God

God and Other Minds: Alvin Plantinga 1990

God and Other Minds: Alvin Plantinga 1972

God And Other Minds; A Study Of The Rational Justification O: Alvin Plantinga 1967

Knowledge of God: Alvin Plantinga 2009-02-17 Is belief in God epistemically justified? That's the question at the heart of this volume in the Great Debates in Philosophy series, with Alvin Plantinga and Michael Tooley each addressing this fundamental question with distinctive arguments from opposing perspectives. The first half of the book contains each philosopher's explanation of his particular view; the second half allows them to directly respond to each other's arguments, in a lively and engaging conversation.

Minds and Gods-Todd Tremlin 2006-03-02 "Around the world and throughout history, in cultures as diverse as ancient Mesopotamia and modern America, human beings have been compelled by belief in gods and developed complex religions around them. But why? What makes belief in supernatural beings so widespread? And why are the gods of so many different people so similar in nature? This provocative book explains the origins and persistence of religious ideas by looking through the lens of science at the common structures and functions of human thought. The first general introduction to the "cognitive science of religion," Minds and Gods presents the major themes, theories, and thinkers involved in this revolutionary new approach to human religiosity.Arguing that we cannot understand what we think until we first understand how we think, the book sets out to study the evolutionary forces that modeled the modern human mind and how they continue to shape our ideas and actions today. Todd Tremlin details many of the adapted features of the brain -- illustrating their operation with examples of everyday human behavior -- and shows how mental endowments inherited from our ancestral past lead many people to naturally entertain religious ideas. In short, belief in gods and the social formation of religion have their genesis in biology, in powerful cognitive processes that all humans share. In the course of illuminating the nature of religion, this book also sheds light on human nature: why we think the things we do and how the reasons for these things are so often hidden from view. This discussion ranges broadly across recent scientific findings in areas such as paleoanthropology, primate studies, evolutionary psychology, early brain development, and cultural transmission. While these subjects are complex, the story is told here in a conversational style that is engaging, jargon free, and accessible to all readers. With Minds and Gods, Tremlin offers a roadmap to a fascinating and growing field of study, one that is sure to generate interest and debate and provide readers with a better understanding of themselves and their beliefs.

God and Freedom, and Evil-Alvin Plantinga 1975

God and Other Minds-James E. Tomberlin 1972

The Nature of Necessity-Alvin Plantinga 1978-02-01 This is a reissue of a book which is an exploration and defence of the notion of modality 'de re', the idea that objects have both essential and accidental properties. It is one of the first full-length studies of the modalities to emerge from the debate to which Saul Kripke, David Lewis, Ruth Marcus and others have contributed. The argument is developed by means of the notion of possible worlds, and ranges over key problems including the nature of essence, trans-world identity, negative existential propositions, and the existence of unactual objects in other possible worlds. In the final chapters Professor Plantinga applies his logical theories to the clarification of two problems in the philosophy of religion - the Problem of Evil and the Ontological Argument.

Where the Conflict Really Lies-Alvin Plantinga 2011-08-01 In this long-awaited book, pre-eminent analytical philosopher Alvin Plantinga argues that the conflict between science and theistic religion is actually superficial, and that at a deeper level they are in concord.

Other Minds-Peter Godfrey-Smith 2016-12-06 A philosopher dons a wet suit and journeys into the depths of consciousness in Other Minds Although mammals and birds are widely regarded as the smartest creatures on earth, it has lately become clear that a very distant branch of the tree of life has also sprouted higher intelligence: the cephalopods, consisting of the squid, the cuttlefish, and above all the octopus. In captivity, octopuses have been known to identify individual human keepers, raid neighboring tanks for food, turn off lightbulbs by spouting jets of water, plug drains, and make daring escapes. How is it that a creature with such gifts evolved through an evolutionary lineage so radically distant from our own? What does it mean that evolution built minds not once but at least twice? The octopus is the closest we will come to meeting an intelligent alien. What can we learn from the encounter? In Other Minds, Peter Godfrey-Smith, a distinguished philosopher of science and a skilled scuba diver, tells a bold new story of how subjective experience crept into being--how nature became aware of itself. As Godfrey-Smith stresses, it is a story that largely occurs in the ocean, where animals first appeared. Tracking the mind's fitful development, Godfrey-Smith shows how unruly clumps of seaborne cells began living together and became capable of sensing, acting, and signaling. As these primitive organisms became more enmeshed with others, they grew more complicated. The first nervous systems evolved, probably in ancient relatives of jellyfish; later on, the cephalopods, which began as inconspicuous mollusks, abandoned their shells and rose above the ocean floor, searching for prey and acquiring the greater intelligence needed to do so. Taking an independent route, mammals and birds later began their own evolutionary journeys. But what kind of intelligence do cephalopods possess? Drawing on the latest scientific research and his own scuba-diving adventures, Godfrey-Smith probes the many mysteries that surround the lineage. How did the octopus, a solitary creature with little social life, become so smart? What is it like to have eight tentacles that are so packed with neurons that they virtually "think for themselves"? What happens when some octopuses abandon their hermit-like ways and congregate, as they do in a unique location off the coast of Australia? By tracing the question of inner life back to its roots and comparing human beings with our most remarkable animal relatives, Godfrey-Smith casts crucial new light on the octopus mind—and on our own.

Naturalism Defeated?-James K. Beilby 2002 Almost a decade ago, Alvin Plantinga articulated his bold and controversial evolutionary argument against naturalism. This intriguing line of argument raises issues of importance to epistemologists and to philosophers of mind, of religion, and of science. In this, the first book to address the ongoing debate, Plantinga presents his influential thesis and responds to critiques by distinguished philosophers from a variety of subfields. Plantinga's argument is aimed at metaphysical naturalism or roughly the view that no supernatural beings exist. Naturalism is typically conjoined with evolution as an explanation of the existence and diversity of life. Plantinga's claim is that one who holds to the naturalistic view of the world is in possession of more, not less, knowledge than he who holds both naturalism and evolution. He argues more specifically, because the probability that unguided evolution would have produced reliable cognitive faculties is either low or inescapable, one who holds both naturalism and evolution acquires a "defeater" for every belief of the kind that is sufficient for argumentation in metaphysics.
Knowledge and Christian Belief-Alvin Plantinga 2015-04-14

Two Dozen (or so) Arguments for God-Jerry Walls 2018-08-07 Thirty years ago, Alvin Plantinga gave a lecture called “Two Dozen (or so) Theistic Arguments,” which served as an underground inspiration for two generations of scholars and students. In it, he proposed a number of novel and creative arguments for the existence of God which have yet to receive the attention they deserve. In Two Dozen (or so) Arguments for God, each of Plantinga’s original suggestions, many of which he only briefly sketched, is developed in detail by a wide variety of accomplished scholars. The authors look to metaphysics, epistemology, semantics, ethics, aesthetics, and beyond, finding evidence for God in almost every dimension of reality. Those arguments new to natural theology are more fully developed, and well-known arguments are given new life. Not only does this collection present ground-breaking research, but it lays the foundations for research projects for years to come.

God Seen Through the Eyes of the Greatest Minds-Michael Caputo 2010-06-15 Michael Caputo, through years of exhaustive research, has discovered letters, writings, and quotes that reveal what the greatest artists, musicians, philosophers, scientists, and writers thought about the God of heaven. Through the pages of this timeless work, you will engage the thoughts of history’s most celebrated people: Mozart, Galileo, Descartes, Shakespeare, Einstein, Michelangelo, and many more. Did great intellect and creativity lead brilliant men and women of the past to agnosticism and atheism, or did it lead them to believe in and submit to a Creator God? The answer to that question lies in the pages of this intriguing book. As you read and experience how the greatest minds of history viewed God, you will find an overwhelming consensus that the God of the universe does indeed exist and that He has impacted and shaped those who have influenced our world. Michael Caputo, through years of exhaustive research, has discovered letters, writings, and quotes that reveal what the greatest artists, musicians, philosophers, scientists, and writers thought about the God of heaven. Through the pages of this timeless work, you will engage the thoughts of history’s most celebrated people: Mozart, Galileo, Descartes, Shakespeare, Einstein, Michelangelo, and many more. Open the pages of this book and discover what those who have shaped history thought about the God of eternity.

Philosophers Who Believe-Kelly James Clark 1997-10-29 Time Magazine reports on a remarkable renaissance of religious belief among philosophers. Who are these intellectuals, and why have they embraced Christian belief. Several thinkers answer these questions with candor, warmth, and brilliance.

The Mind Club-Daniel M. Wegener 2017-03-21 Daniel M. Wegener and Kurt Gray are award-winning psychologists who have discovered that minds - while incredibly important - are a matter of perception. Their research opens a trove of new findings, with insights into human behaviour that are fascinating, frightening, and funny. By investigating the mind perception of extraordinary targets - animals, machines, comatose people, god - Wegener and Gray explain what it means to have a mind, and why it matters so much. Fusing cutting-edge research and personal anecdotes, The Mind Club explores the moral dimensions of mind perception.

The Analytic Theist-Alvin Plantinga 1998 This collection of essays and excerpts gives a comprehensive overview of Alvin Plantinga’s seminal work as a Christian philosopher of religion.

God-Jennifer Berne 2017-08-29 For anyone who has wondered, “What have the greatest minds in human history thought of God?” This charmingly-illustrated compendium of quotes will inspire, comfort, and delight anyone who has contemplated the higher power. Throughout history, humans have been fascinated by the idea a divine, omnipotent being. This curiosity has captivated us all, including civilization’s most brilliant thinkers. God is a compilation of 48 carefully-chosen quotes from history’s most interesting minds-including Homer, Galileo, Einstein, Pope Francis, and Maya Angelou-specifically on what they had to say when they pondered the higher power. The quotes are paired with delightful illustrations from famed New Yorker cartoonist R.O. Blechman, grounding this varied group of perspectives in a common visual language that is sure to amuse and delight readers.

A Middle Way to God-Garth L. Hallett 2000-05-25 Charting a “middle way” between the extremes represented by Alvin Plantinga and Richard Swinburne, Garth Hallett explores the thesis that if belief in other minds is rational and true (as it surely is), so too is belief in God. He makes a strong case that when this parity claim is appropriately restricted to a single, sound other-minds belief, belief in God and belief in other minds do prove epistemically comparable. This result, and the distinctive path that leads to it, will interest students and scholars in philosophy of religion and theology.

Does God Have a Nature?-Alvin Plantinga 1980 Sets of contingent objects, perhaps, are as contingent as their members; but properties, propositions, numbers and states of affairs, it seems, are objects whose non-existence is quite impossible. If so, however, how are they related to God? Suppose God has a nature: a property he has essentially that includes each property essential to him. Does God have a nature? And if he does, is there a conflict between God’s sovereignty and his having a nature? How is God related to such abstract objects as properties and propositions? These are the questions I want to explore. -Introduction.

Alvin Plantinga-Deane-Peter Baker 2007-06-18 Few thinkers have had as much impact on contemporary philosophy as has Alvin Plantinga. The work of this quintessential analytic philosopher has in many respects set the tone for the debate in the fields of modal metaphysics and epistemology and he is arguably the most important philosopher of religion of our time. In this volume, a distinguished team of today’s leading philosophers address the central aspects of Plantinga’s philosophy - his views on natural theology; his response to the problem of evil; his contributions to the field of modal metaphysics; the controversial evolutionary argument against naturalism; his model of epistemic warrant and his view of epistemic defeat; and his recent work on mind-body dualism. Also included is an appendix containing Plantinga’s often referred to, but previously unpublished, lecture notes entitled ‘Two Dozen (or so) Theistic Arguments’, with a substantial preface to the appendix written by Plantinga specifically for this volume.

Warrant-Alvin Plantinga 1993-05-27 Known for distinguished work in the fields of metaphysics and philosophy of religion, Alvin Plantinga ventures further into epistemology in this book and its companion volume, Warrant and Proper Function. Plantinga examines the nature of epistemic warrant; whatever it is that when added to true belief yields knowledge. This present volume surveys current contributions to the debate and paves the way for his own positive proposal in Warrant and Proper Function. This first volume serves as a good introduction to the central issues in contemporary epistemology.

Philosophy for A Level-Michael Lacewing 2017-07-14 Philosophy for A Level is an accessible textbook for the new 2017 AQA Philosophy syllabus. Structured closely around the AQA specification this textbook covers the two units, Metaphysics of God and Metaphysics of Mind, in an engaging and student-friendly way. With chapters on ‘How to do philosophy’, exam preparation providing students with the philosophical skills they need to succeed, and an extensive glossary to support understanding, this book is ideal for students studying philosophy. Each chapter includes: argument maps that help to develop students’ analytical and critical skills; comprehension questions to test understanding discussion questions to generate evaluative argument explanation of and commentary on the AQA set texts ‘Thinking harder’ sections cross-references to help students make connections bullet-point summaries of each topic. The companion website hosts a wealth of further resources, including PowerPoint slides, flashcards, further reading, weblinks and handouts, all structured to accompany the textbook. It can be found at www.routledge.com/cw/alevelphilosophy.

God Soul Mind Brain-Michael S. A. Graziano 2010 Science and (not versus) religion: a neuroscientific account of how the brain’s social machinery creates consciousness, soul, spiritualism, and God.

What Does It All Mean?-Thomas Nagel 1987-10-15 In this cogent and accessible introduction to philosophy, the distinguished author of Mortal Questions and The View From Nowhere sets forth the central problems of philosophical inquiry for the beginning student. Arguing that the best way to learn about philosophy is to think about its questions directly, Thomas Nagel considers possible solutions to nine problems—knowledge of the world beyond our minds, knowledge of other minds, the mind-body problem, free will, the basis of morality, right and wrong, the nature of death, the
meaning of life, and the meaning of words. Although he states his own opinions clearly, Nagel leaves these fundamental questions open, allowing students to entertain other solutions and encouraging them to think for themselves.

Reason, Metaphysics, and Mind - Kelly James Clark 2012-02-09 In May 2010, philosophers, family and friends gathered at the University of Notre Dame to celebrate the career and retirement of Alvin Plantinga, widely recognized as one of the world’s leading figures in metaphysics, epistemology, and the philosophy of religion. Plantinga has earned particular respect within the community of Christian philosophers for the pivotal role that he played in the recent renewal and development of philosophy of religion and philosophical theology. Each of the essays in this volume engages with some particular aspect of Plantinga’s views on metaphysics, epistemology, or philosophy of religion. Contributors include Michael Bergman, Ernest Sosa, Trenton Merricks, Richard Otte, Peter VanInwagen, Thomas P. Flint, Eleonore Stump, Dean Zimmerman and Nicholas Wolterstorff. The volume also includes responses to each essay by Bas van Fraassen, Stephen Wykstra, David VonderLan, Robin Collins, Raymond VanArragon, E. J. Coffman, Thomas Crisp, and Donald Smith.

Plantinga on God and Other Minds - Loren E. Lomasky 1975

The Non-existence of God - Nicholas Everitt 2004 Arguments for the existence of God have taken many different forms over the centuries: in The Non-Existence of God, Everitt considers all the arguments and examines the role that reason and knowledge play in the debate over God’s existence.

Plantinga on God and Other Minds - Loren Eric Lomasky 1975

God, Other Minds, and the Criterion of Experience - Ben Gay Norlin 1977

Divine Intervention - Evan Fales 2010-03-12 The central theme of this book is that it’s not enough to invoke omnipotence and omniscience as answers to the questions of God’s ability to create and causally affect the world (i.e., perform miracles) and human beings (i.e., to cause mystical experiences) and, conversely, God’s ability to perceive, or otherwise know about the world. Rather, it is incumbent upon theists to explain just how a personal, immaterial being such as God could cause mundane events, could institute (and sometimes circumvent) laws of nature, could be causally affected by the world (as in perception), and the like. That requires examining current thinking (which is diverse) about the very nature of causation, laws of nature, and agency, all of which Fales endeavors to do in this study.

Living with a Wild God - Barbara Ehrenreich 2014-04-08 From the New York Times bestselling author of Nickel and Dimed comes a brave, frank, and exquisitely written memoir that will change the way you see the world. Barbara Ehrenreich is one of the most important thinkers of our time. Educated as a scientist, she is an author, journalist, activist, and advocate for social justice. In LIVING WITH A WILD GOD, she recounts her quest-beginning in childhood-to find “the Truth” about the universe and everything else: What’s really going on? Why are we here? In middle age, she rediscovered the journal she had kept during her tumultuous adolescence, which records an event so strange, so catalytic, that she had never, in all the intervening years, written or spoken about it to anyone. It was the kind of event that people call “a mystical experience”-and, to a steadfast atheist and rationalist, nothing less than shattering. In LIVING WITH A WILD GOD, Ehrenreich reconstructs her childhood mission, bringing an older woman’s wry and erudite perspective to a young girl’s impassioned obsession with the questions that, at one point or another, torment us all. The result is both deeply personal and cosically sweeping-a searing memoir and a profound reflection on science, religion, and the human condition. With her signature combination of intellectual rigor and uninhibited imagination, Ehrenreich offers a true literary achievement-a work that has the power not only to entertain but amaze.

Faith and Rationality - Alvin Plantinga 1983 A collection of essays by contemporary Calvinist philosophers of religion that examine the epistemology of religious belief between Reformed and Roman Catholic philosophers.

The Confessions of St. Augustine - Saint Augustine (of Hippo) 1844

Emerson and Other Minds - Distinguished Professor Michael J Colacurcio 2020-12 In Emerson and Other Minds, Michael J. Colacurcio traces the long arc of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s writings. While Emerson’s seldom argues academically in his essays, he intends the essays to be primary acts of philosophy. The essays are also highly wrought literary performances, and so they need to be closely read in the New Critical manner. Colacurcio proposes that Emerson is one of modernity’s central writers on the question of privacy: the unsettling epistemological fact that even though people have the ability to share through language the experiences that shape their version of the world, no one else can fully experience another’s process of creating and evaluating the world. Emerson may imagine a transparent eyeball, but never a universal retina. This ineluctable privacy underwrites the famous moral doctrine of self-reliance, but it also helps to explain the painful problems of love and friendship. Colacurcio’s close reading results in a two-volume compilation that reminds us of the importance of encountering and remembering Emerson for more than his famous sentences. Conversing with himself and other powerful minds on fundamental questions of human knowledge and behavior, Emerson produced brilliant essays—both philosophical and literary in the fullest sense—that are certainly worth reading closely and with new eyes. —Eric Sundquist, Andrew W. Mellon Professor Emeritus of the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University

The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind - Julian Jaynes 2000-08-15 National Book Award Finalist: “This man’s ideas may be the most influential, not to say controversial, of the second half of the twentieth century.”—Columbus Dispatch At the heart of this classic, seminal book is Julian Jaynes’s still-controversial thesis that human consciousness did not begin far back in animal evolution but instead is a learned process that came about only three thousand years ago and is still developing. The implications of this revolutionary scientific paradigm extend into virtually every aspect of our psychology, our history and culture, our religion—and indeed our future. “Don’t be put off by the academic title of Julian Jaynes’s The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind. Its prose is always lucid and often lyrical...he unfolds his ideas so they need to be closely read in the New Critical manner. Colacurcio’s close reading results in a two-volume compilation that reminds us of the importance of encountering and remembering Emerson for more than his famous sentences. Conversing with himself and other powerful minds on fundamental questions of human knowledge and behavior, Emerson produced brilliant essays—both philosophical and literary in the fullest sense—that are certainly worth reading closely and with new eyes. —Eric Sundquist, Andrew W. Mellon Professor Emeritus of the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University

The Existence of God - Richard Swinburne 2004-03-23 Substantially rewritten and updated, this edition of The Existence of God presents arguments such as the existence of the laws of nature, “fine-tuning” of the universe, moral awareness and evidence of miracles, to prove the case that there is a God.

Warranted Christian Belief - Alvin Plantinga 2000 Describes the notion of warrant as that which distinguishes knowledge from true belief. This volume examines warrant’s role in theistic belief, tackling the questions of whether it is rational, reasonable, justifiable, and warranted to accept Christian belief and whether there is something epistemically unacceptable in doing so.