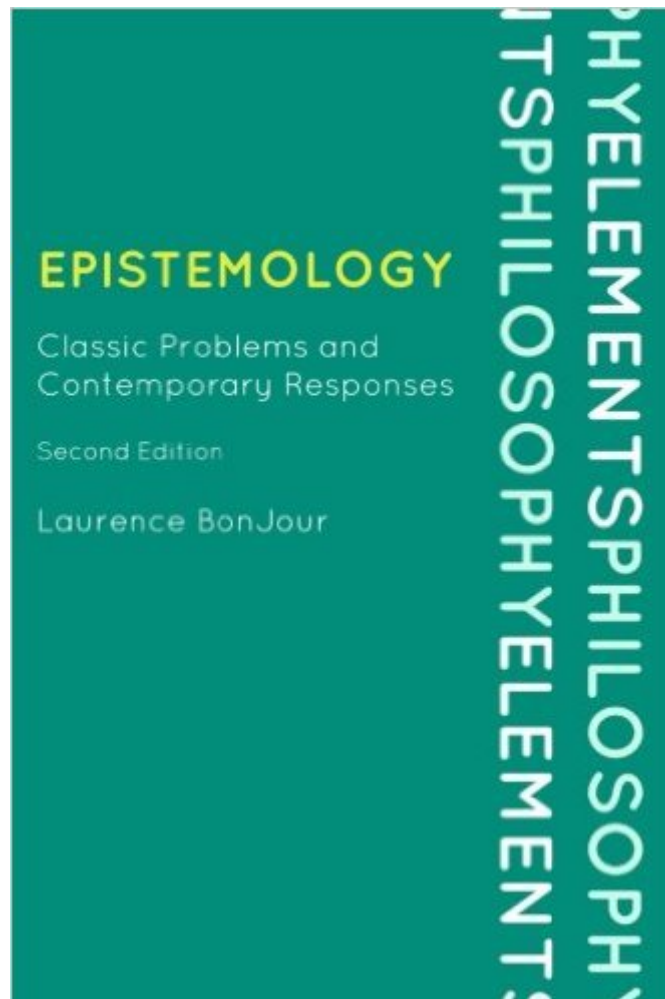


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Epistemology: Classic Problems And Contemporary Responses (Elements Of Philosophy)



Synopsis

In Epistemology, Laurence Bonjour introduces the serious philosophy student to the history and concepts of epistemology, while simultaneously challenging them to take an active part in its ongoing debates. The text reflects BonJour's conviction that the place to start any discussion of the theories of knowledge is with the classical problems, beginning with and centered around Descartes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is pretty hard for people trying to learn on their own. It definitely requires a skilled philosopher. There are questions in the back and many notes that help readers to know what BonJour is speaking about. It is a fairly intuitive case against skepticism. BonJour sifts through the ideas of Des Cartes, Locke, Hume, Kant, Russell, and others as well as many contemporary ideas. Ultimately BonJour writes a compelling case for Moderate Rationalistic Internal justification of Knowledge.

Expensive, epistemic expansive, exacting in many aspects, a must for any young student of epistemic studies. You will not agree with all the solutions or even the formulation of the problems, but you should enjoy reading the book as it will assist you in expanding your understanding of your knowledge pre-committments. Buy this if you are an alert student or one seeking to make

epistemology a part of your intellectual life; as per most fail to seek in forming their worldview.

Laurence Bonjour is one of the leading epistemologists in America. He has written two other books, *IN DEFENSE OF PURE REASON* and *THE STRUCTURE OF EMPIRICAL KNOWLEDGE*. This book takes as his departure the Cartesian program. Much of the book is a discussion of various epistemological problems analyzed in light of responses to Descartes. (For example, Plato and Aristotle are barely mentioned, and Aquinas isn't mentioned at all.) Many of the current issues in epistemology are discussed, such as foundationalism versus coherentism, and sense-data and adverbial theories of perception. There is a lengthy critique of Quine's "naturalized epistemology." This book is part of a new series called *ELEMENTS OF PHILOSOPHY*, which is edited by Robert Audi. Prof. Audi has written a work entitled *EPISTEMOLOGY* for a different series. That work is also recommended and covers similar ground as Prof. Bonjour's work, but is a little longer.

Although it's made as a book for students, this is quite complicated to read as a novice. That being said, once you get the hang of his style of writing, it is a genuinely good book. Bonjour had a lot of valid points throughout, though I don't really have a lot of similar works to compare it with.

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