

**Philosophy: A Guide to the
Reference Literature,
Third Edition**

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General Indexes, Abstract and Review Sources, and Serial Bibliographies

37. Bibliographie de la philosophie, 1937–53. Vols. 1–10. Paris: Librairie Philosophique J. Vrin, 1937–1958. Semiannual.

Compiled by the staff of the Institut International de Philosophie, this serial bibliography and index attempted to cover exhaustively philosophical publications, books as well as journal literature, in most Western languages. It did not appear for several years during World War II (1940–1945); the gap is filled by De Brie's *Bibliografia filosofica* (entry 12). The two major sections of each issue are (1) an integrated, alphabetical author listing of books and journal articles and (2) a systematic subject index subdivided into a chronological/geographical section, an index of philosophers, and an index of concepts and terms. In addition, there is a directory of publishers by country and a directory of periodicals.

Volume 10 of this series, not published until 1958, is a “hybrid” bridging the transition of the *Bibliographie* to a radically revised scope and format (see entry 38).

38. Bibliographie de la philosophie/Bibliography of Philosophy, 1954–. Paris: Librairie Philosophique J. Vrin, 1954–. Vol. 1–. 3 issues per year.

The adoption of joint English and French titles marked the transition of this publication from a bibliography listing both books and periodical articles to one covering books only. A new volume numbering also began with this change. However, a transitional volume, covering the years 1952–1953, was published belatedly (1958) as the final volume (number 10) of the original series (entry 37); this covered only books and carried the dual-language title, but followed the old format and lacked the abstracts which are a major virtue of the new series.

The present publication is not only international in scope but also polylingual, providing abstracts in the language of origin for books in English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, and in either English or French for books in other languages. In a typical year, well over a thousand books are covered in the *Bibliographie*. The signed abstracts are intended to be factual and not critical. They vary in length from a few to sometimes more than 30 lines. Entries and abstracts are contributed via “centers of philosophical bibliography” in over 50 countries represented in the Institut International de Philosophie, the Paris-based organization responsible for the *Bibliographie* and one of several international bodies (UNESCO is another) associated with its publication.

The *Bibliographie* employs a systematic arrangement with 10 broad and rather standard divisions (philosophy in general; logic and philosophy of science; ethics and values; etc.). Indexes are not provided in each quarterly issue—only cumulated annual indexes in the final issue of each volume. One index formerly combined authors, titles, and title catchwords, but has been reduced since volume 34 (1987) to just an author index, except for anonymous works or others listed by title only. A second, labeled “Index of Names,” combines publishers, translators, authors of prefaces, and individuals mentioned

in titles or in abstracts. Volume 41 (1994) brought the addition of a subject index, divided into three distinct parts: (1) periods; (2) doctrines, disciplines, and trends of thought; and (3) concepts and categories.

A *Glossaire / Glossary*, published as a supplement in 1995, lists translation equivalents for frequently occurring terms and expressions across the five languages used in the *Bibliographie*.

39. Bibliographie de la philosophie/Bibliography of Philosophy, 1998–. CD-ROM. Paris: Librairie Philosophique J. Vrin, 2000–.

A CD-ROM version of entry 38. At this writing in November 2005, three installments, each of the last two superseding its predecessor(s), are listed on the Web site of the sponsoring Institut International de Philosophie (<http://www.umr8547.ens.fr/Productions/iip-Publications.html>). The first disk, issued in 2000, covered 1998 only; the second, issued in 2001, provided cumulated coverage for 1998–2000; and the latest installment, issued in 2004, covers 1998–2002. (That the latest disk listed actually exists is consistent with plans described in a May 2004 communication from the Institut to the author of this guide, but could not be independently confirmed.) Issuance of files for years prior to 1998 was also foreseen but has not occurred to date. Similarly, reported negotiations toward the goal of making the database available online, with implementation originally anticipated sometime in 2005, have not yet come to fruition. Efforts to obtain updated information on these plans have been unsuccessful as of late 2005.

40. Dietrich's Index philosophicus, 1983–. Munich: K. G. Saur, 1997–. CD-ROM.

As of late 2005, this CD-ROM resource comprised a retrospective disc (*Basisdatenbank*) covering the years 1983–1996 and a cumulated file for the period (*Berichtszeitraum*) 1997–2004, supplemented by twice-annual updates. The 1983–1996 compilation, originally issued at Osnabrück by Felix Dietrich Verlag, 1998, was marketed in North America for a time by the Philosophy Documentation Center as *Index Philosophicus*. Both it and subsequent issues are scarce in U.S. libraries at this writing.

DIP is a multilingual index to journal articles, book reviews, and essays from *Festschriften* on philosophy, theology, and religious studies. It is compiled by drawing material in these areas from three interdisciplinary indexes: *the Internationale Bibliographie der Zeitschriftenliteratur (IBZ)*, *the Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen (IBR)*, and *the Internationale Jahresbibliographie der Festschriften (IJBf)*. Searchable subject headings are assigned in both German and English, and the retrieval program supports a standard variety of additional access points and search strategies. The publisher's Web site (September 2005) advertises that a combined total of 696,852 items are represented on the two cumulative discs.

Although *DIP*'s coverage overlaps significantly with that of the *Philosopher's Index* (entry 47) as well as the *International Philosophical Bibliography* (entry 43), wider inclusion of European philosophical publications provides an advantage over the former, while advantages over both lie in the comprehensive indexing of the *Festschriften* literature and (for some users) the subject coverage combining philosophy with theology and religious studies.

41. Francis bulletin signalétique 519: Philosophie/Philosophy, 1991–1994. Vols. 45–48. Nancy, France: Institut de l'information scientifique et technique, 1991–1994.

This publication was part of the immense indexing and abstracting program carried on by the French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (C.N.R.S.) under the umbrella title *Francis bulletin signalétique*. This particular part, which covered the serial literature of Western philosophy on a worldwide scale and with something approaching exhaustiveness, has a complex bibliographic history. It first appeared under the title *Bulletin analytique: Philosophie* (1947–55, vols. 1–9), and subsequently, through 1990, as the *Bulletin signalétique*, in varying combinations of subject coverage with varying subtitles and section numberings:

1956–1960, volumes 10–14: *Philosophie, Sciences humaines*.

1961–1968, volumes 15–21: *Sciences humaines (Section 19: Philosophie, Sciences religieuses)*.

1969, volume 22: *Philosophie, sciences religieuses*.

1970–90, volumes 23–44: *519. Philosophie*.

The final title change (including addition of the subtitle in English) occurred in 1991. Surprisingly, a single continuous sequence of volume numbers was maintained throughout all these changes. Print publication ceased with the 1994 volume. Since then this publication's coverage has been effectively carried forward, and retrospectively duplicated, by the online and CD-ROM database *FRANCIS*, which provides interdisciplinary coverage of the humanities and social sciences but no longer affords the distinct identity for philosophy that existed in the print era. *FRANCIS* remains under the provenance of the Institut de l'information scientifique et technique. Its retrospective coverage, as of early 2004, reached back to 1972 in the online database, to 1984 in the CD-ROM version (distributed by Ovid Technologies). English-language searching of the Web version is available via the Eureka search interface of the U.S. Research Libraries Group (RLG).

Francis bulletin signalétique 519 employs a classified arrangement, with the *plan de classement* or classification scheme (both French and English-language versions) printed in the front of each issue. Abstracts, usually brief, are in French, regardless of the language of the article or the origin of the journal in which it is published. Book reviews, but *not* books themselves, are included, and are often summarized in a short abstract as well. An index of journals covered in each issue is provided, as well as separate author and subject indexes. All three indexes are cumulated in annual indexes, or *tables annuelles*, which appeared as a fifth issue supplementing the regular quarterly issues.

42. Index Philosophicus. CD-ROM.

See entry 40.

43. International Philosophical Bibliography/Répertoire bibliographique de la philosophie/Bibliografisch repertorium van de wijsbegeerte, 1991–. Vol. 43–. Louvain: Institut supérieur de Philosophie, Université Catholique de Louvain/Hoger Instituut voor Wijsbegeerte, Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven, 1991–. Frequency varies.

From 1949 through 1990 (volumes 1–42), this trilingually titled publication carried only the French title *Répertoire bibliographique de la philosophie*. For convenience, it will be referred to here as the *IPB/Répertoire*.

Writing before the advent of the *Philosopher's Index* (entry 47), H. J. Koren (see note under entry 8) called this “perhaps the *most important* tool for assembling a bibliography on a particular subject.” While the importance of the *IPB/Répertoire* has unquestionably diminished since then, at least for the typical English-speaking scholar or student, it remains for some an alternative and for others a significant supplement to the *Philosopher's Index*. It covers a number of non-English journals not included in the *Phil Index*, and also many non-English books, which the *Phil Index* excludes as a matter of policy. Unlike the *Phil Index*, however, the *IPB/Répertoire* does not provide abstracts.

The scope and arrangement of the *IPB/Répertoire* are thoroughly explained—in French, English, Dutch, German, Spanish, and Italian—in the introduction to the first issue of each annual volume. As it has since 1949, it focuses its attention on materials in these languages: Catalan, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, and Spanish. Works in other languages *may* be included, but the exhaustiveness claimed for the languages mentioned is specifically disclaimed for any others. Entries for books and journal articles are intermingled in the classified arrangement, but those for books and collections (such as conference proceedings) are distinguished by an asterisk. The classification scheme divides broadly into a historical section, with both chronological and geographical subdivisions, and a systematic section, subdivided for major branches of philosophic thought. Prior to 1997, annual volumes consisted of three regular issues listing articles and books, but lacking indexes, plus a fourth (the November issue) reserved for book reviews and a cumulated annual index. Since 1997, though the *IPB/Répertoire* remains formally a quarterly, issues have regularly been combined: into a single issue for 1997 (vol. 49) and into double issues (numbered “1–2” and “3–4”) for subsequent years. Each combined issue now incorporates book review listings and has its own index. The latter remains limited to a general name index for authors, translators, and reviewers, and also, in a feeble gesture toward subject indexing, philosophers mentioned in the titles of works cited.

As an independent publication under its former French-only and present trilingual titles, the *IPB/Répertoire* succeeds a previous incarnation, from 1934 to 1948, as a supplement to the *Revue néo-scholastique de philosophie*, later the *Revue philosophique de Louvain*, and also, for part of the same period, as a supplement to the Dutch *Tijdschrift voor filosofie* under the title *Bibliografisch repertorium*. (Most of this period has since been more thoroughly covered by De Brie's *Bibliografia philosophica*, entry 12). Both the *IPB/Répertoire's* origins and its present sponsorship suggest, and explain, a Neo-Scholastic orientation. However, any bias is noticeable in the inclusion of material others might consider marginal rather than in the exclusion of anything generally considered central to philosophy.

44. International Philosophical Bibliography/Répertoire bibliographique de la philosophie/Bibliografisch repertorium van de wijsbegeerte, 1997–. CD-ROM. Louvain: Peeters Press, n.d.

The CD-ROM version of the *IPB/Répertoire* (entry 43) is limited at this writing in November 2005 to a single disc covering 1997–2000. Plans for a cumulative CD-ROM file for 1997–2003, reported by the publication's staff in mid-2004, have not materialized at this time; updated information on this was not available. An online version of the database (entry 45) debuted in late 2004.

The 1997–2000 CD-ROM, corresponding to volumes 49 to 52 of the printed publication, was advertised as containing records for some 24,000 books, 20,000 articles, and 13,000 book reviews. Search software included on the disc permits “simple searches”

via no less than 18 different indexes. Advanced searching using Boolean operators, wild-cards, and so forth, is also supported.

45. International Philosophical Bibliography/Répertoire bibliographique de la philosophie/Bibliografisch repertorium van de wijsbegeerte. Online.

The online version of the *IPB/Répertoire* (cf. entries 43 and 44) became available in 2004. It shares the classified structure as well as the content of the print index, but it affords additional access points including article or book titles, journal titles, subject keywords (limited to specifically philosophical expressions in English only), and ISBNs for books; and it also provides Boolean search capabilities and the ability to limit searches by language, type of document, year of publication, or specific personal name categories such as authors, editors, collaborators, or translators. The database is divided into a retrospective file (1990 through 1996) and a current file (1997 forward). Access is by institutional subscription. Provisions originally made for limited “daypass” access by individuals had been suspended by late 2005. Information about the database as well as access to it from authorized locations are available at <http://pob.peeters-leuven.be/>.

46. Novaia literatura po sotsialnym i gumanitarnym naukam: filosofii i sotsiologii, 1993–. Moscow: INION RAN, 1993–. Monthly.

The principal Russian-language index to periodical literature in philosophy, covered in combination with sociology. It is part of the larger indexing project designated by its main title. Russian and other Slavic-language journals are particularly well represented, but the scope is international. It is not uncommon that half or more of the entries in a given subject section represent articles or reviews in English and other non-Slavic European languages, printed in roman alphabet. Brief abstracts, where present, are always in Russian. Main entries are organized by a detailed subject classification encompassing branches and subbranches of philosophy and historical periods. The sociology section is distinct from that for philosophy but follows it without interruption in the classification scheme.

The index under its present title was formed by the merger of *Novaia inostrannaia literature po obshchestvennyim naukam: filosofii i sotsiologii* (Moscow: Akademiia nauk SSSR, 1976–1992) and *Novaia otechestvennaia literatura po obshchestvennyim naukam: filosofii i sotsiologii*, the latter issued for only a single year (Moscow: INION RAN, 1992) and preceded by *Noviaia sovetskaia literatura po obshchestvennyim naukam: filosofskie nauki* (Moscow: Akademiia nauk SSSR, 1976–1991).

47. The Philosopher’s Index, 1967–. Vol. 1–. Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosophy Documentation Center, Bowling Green State University, 1967–1998; Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosopher’s Information Center, 1998–. Quarterly with annual cumulation.

Launched in 1967, *The Philosopher’s Index* quickly established itself as the preeminent indexing and abstracting service for philosophers and students in the Anglo-American orbit, and for many beyond it as well. All major philosophy journals in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian are indexed, along with selected journals in other languages and related interdisciplinary publications. By 2005, more than 550 journals from 40 countries and in 30 languages were being indexed in full or in part. Coverage was extended to books in 1980, but only to books in English. The subtitle, *An International Index to Philosophical Periodicals*, had the words “and Books” added in 1982 to reflect this widened scope.

After some initial variation, the *Index* settled into its present pattern of organization, a highly satisfactory one that deserves wider emulation. The basic division is into subject and author listings, with full bibliographic information and abstract (always in English) furnished in the author section. The subject index refers to the full entries in the author section, but because it provides the title and author of the cited article or book (not, e.g., just an entry number), the user can often assess an item's likely relevance from the information in the subject index alone. This reduces laborious flipping between indexes. Subject descriptors, while mostly narrow and specific, sometimes cast so wide that they net unmanageably large numbers of entries (especially in the annual cumulation). In compensation, however, items are usually listed under several, even many, descriptors. A thesaurus of descriptors has been published separately (*The Philosopher's Index Thesaurus*, rev. 2nd ed., revisions by Kelly M. Broughton, Philosophy Documentation Center, 1998, 105p.)

Book reviews are covered in a separate section of the *Index*. From 1975 to 1988, every issue also had a section explaining the *Philosophy Research Archives*, initially a microfilm-only journal, after 1982 an annual print journal with a microfiche supplement, sponsored by the Philosophy Documentation Center and geared as much to on-demand publication as subscriptions. Articles in the *Archives* were covered in the main sections of the *Index*. Regularization as a journal in 1989 was followed by a title change in 1990 to *Journal of Philosophical Research*.

For retrospective coverage of materials published prior to 1967, see entries 49 and 50. For electronic versions of the *Philosopher's Index*, see entry 48.

48. The Philosopher's Index. Online and CD-ROM. Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosopher's Information Center.

The electronic version of the *Philosopher's Index*, available both online and on CD-ROM, embraces the content of the current print index from its commencement in 1967 (entry 47) as well as two retrospective print indexes that extended coverage back to 1940 (entries 49 and 50). At this writing in October 2005, both electronic formats are available through Ovid Technologies (formerly SilverPlatter), the online version also through the database services of OCLC FirstSearch and Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA). When multiple databases are licensed from these same vendors, it is often possible to search *Philosopher's Index* and other indexes simultaneously. Each vendor applies its own search interface to the content of the index, but all afford most of the standard access points and search techniques, such as Boolean searching and use of truncated terms. Of course, search software is highly subject to change—as are database vendors. A vivid reminder of this comes if one consults the “Hints for Effective Searches” in the 1998 printed *Philosopher's Index Thesaurus*, rev. 2nd ed., which is geared to the now defunct Dialog Corporation version of the database. Incidentally, the actual thesaurus of subject descriptors in that publication can certainly be used to abet online searching, but the various vendor platforms provide handier and more up-to-date equivalents for identifying appropriate descriptors, such as the “Index” and “Suggest” functions of the Ovid interface or CSA's browsable indexes.

The database is reported to contain some 328,000 records as of 2005 and to add some 14,000 each year. Until recently, the electronic version of the *Philosopher's Index* notoriously omitted book reviews, which command a separate section in the printed index. Citations to book reviews began appearing in late 2004, however, and are now included back to 1994 (vol. 28 of the print version).

Readers are advised to consult the Philosopher's Information Center Web site, <http://www.philinfo.org>, for current information on the electronic *Philosopher's Index*.

49. The Philosopher's Index: A Retrospective Index to U.S. Publications from 1940. Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosophy Documentation Center, Bowling Green State University, 1978. 3 vols.

This retrospective index includes articles published in American philosophy journals between 1940 and 1966, and original philosophy books (i.e., not including new editions, reprintings, etc.) published in the United States between 1940 and 1976. The difference between dates of coverage for journal literature and those for books is presumably due to the fact that books began to be included in the regular *Philosopher's Index* series only in 1980 (though this seems still to leave a small gap: some, though certainly not all, books published in 1976 and 1977 appear to have fallen through the "crack").

Arrangement is identical to that used in the current series, with volumes 1 and 2 containing the subject index and volume 3 the author index with abstracts. Many of the abstracts are reprinted from other sources, including the *Bibliographie de la philosophie*, *Philosophic Abstracts*, and journals such as the *Review of Metaphysics*.

50. The Philosopher's Index: A Retrospective Index to Non-U.S. English Language Publications from 1940. Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosophy Documentation Center, Bowling Green State University, 1980. 3 vols.

This work is similar to entry 49 but covers books and journal literature published outside the United States. While international in scope and encompassing material published in countries which are not English-speaking, it does include only material written in English, differing in that respect from the current *Philosopher's Index*.

51. Philosophiae Ianua Bibliographica. Compiled by Joachim Aul. Cuxhaven and Dartford: Traude Junghans, 1999–.

Its title ("Annual Bibliography of Philosophy") indicates that although this bibliography commenced by periodically issuing subject volumes covering successive parts of the alphabet—an apparently finite project—it was intended to be an ongoing endeavor. A loose-leaf format evidently was meant to accommodate annual supplements, though the first several volumes failed to explain this. It is not clear that this plan was ever implemented or even whether progress continues on the base set. The author of this guide personally examined three base volumes covering the letters A (1999), B (2000), and C/D (2000); additional volumes through P/Q (2004) and a separate one for Kant (2002) are attested by various library catalogs. Ongoing effort or future plans could not be confirmed. In any event, the project seems to have met a chilly reception. A reviewer on the *Reference Reviews Europe Online* Web site (October 27, 2001, no longer accessible) made the following assessment: "A statement in a brochure obtained separately from the publisher, in which the author describes himself as a 'collector, with a side interest in philosophy,' explains the lack of discrimination in the inclusion and organization of the articles. One would be best off utilizing existing retrospective and current printed and electronic bibliographies. There is certainly no need for this one." In that light, it's not surprising that only a few exemplars of early volumes are to be found in North American and British libraries.

52. Philosophic Abstracts, 1939–54. Vols. 1–16. New York: Philosophical Library, 1939–1946 (vols. 1–6). New York: Russell F. Moore, 1947–1954 (vols. 7–16).

Evidently conceived more as a current awareness and reviewing publication than as a comprehensive bibliographic tool, *Philosophic Abstracts* typically covered 50 to 100 books in each of its quarterly issues. While selective, it did provide international coverage, including non-English- as well as English-language books, and employed a geographical arrangement by country of publication. Until 1950, it also carried lists of periodical literature, that is, journal articles; but these, too, were highly selective, and they did *not* include abstracts.

Many of the abstracts for books were quite lengthy and would more accurately be called reviews—especially those that contained critical and evaluative comment as well as factual information. No doubt this explains why, especially in its early years, so many of its abstracts, which were signed, could be contributed by distinguished figures such as George Boas, Rudolf Carnap, Paul O. Kristeller, Richard McKeon, Ernest Nagel, I. M. Bochenski, and Vernon J. Bourke.

For its first half decade, *Philosophic Abstracts* was edited by Dagobert Runes. Later editors were Ralph Winn and the publisher, Russell F. Moore. Moore also brought out a cumulated index under the title *Decennial Index to Philosophical Literature, 1939–1950* (n.d., 115p.).

53. Philosophical Books, 1960–. Vol. 1–. Leicester, England: Leicester University Press, 1960–1978. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1979–. Quarterly.

Philosophical Books is a quarterly journal that “aims to provide prompt, scholarly reviews of new professional books and journals in philosophy and the history of philosophy” (from a statement printed at the back of each issue). Founded in 1960 by the editorial committee of the journal *Analysis*, it is highly selective. Emphasized predominantly, though not exclusively, are books reflecting the concerns of Anglo-American analytic philosophy. A typical issue contains 20 or so substantial review articles that normally are critical as well as descriptive. A regular discussion feature allows authors of selected titles an opportunity to respond to reviewers. Special issues may be devoted to a single theme.

A Cumulative Index to Philosophical Books: Volumes 1–15 (1960–1974), compiled by Julius F. Ariail, has been published separately (Statesboro, Ga.: Sweet Bay Press, 1980, 40p.).

54. Philosophischer Literaturanzeiger: Ein Referateorgan für die Neuerscheinungen der Philosophie und ihrer gesamten Grenzgebiete, 1949–. Publisher varies, 1949–1989, vols. 1–42 (no. 2). Frankfurt am Main: Vittorio Klostermann, 1989–. Vol. 42 (no. 3)–. Quarterly.

This review journal is published in conjunction with the *Zeitschrift für philosophische Forschung*. Currently published quarterly (frequency has varied in the past), it carries reviews of 25 to 30 new books in each issue. Although the majority of these are German, or at least German translations, some significant non-German titles are also reviewed in most issues. The board of editors includes philosophers from several countries.

There exists a cumulative index for 1948–1977, *Gesamtregister der Jahrgänge 1–30 (1948–1977): Philosophischer Literaturanzeiger*, compiled by Georgi Schischkoff (Meisenheim/Glan: A. Hain, 1977, 90p.), but it is not widely available. Tables of contents

for recent years were available (as of October 2005) on the publisher's Web site: http://www.klostermann.de/zeitsch/phli_hmp.htm.

55. Philosophy in Review/Comptes rendus philosophiques, 1997–. Edmonton, Alta.: Academic Printing & Publishing, 1997–. Vol. 17–.

Formerly titled *Canadian Philosophical Reviews/Revue canadienne de comptes rendus en philosophie* (1981–1996, vols. 1–16), this bimonthly review journal publishes up to 200 reviews annually of books encompassing any area of philosophy. It is not restricted to Canadian books or authors. Reviews, which may be in English or French, are generally timely, within a year of publication.

56. POIESIS: Philosophy Online Serials. Intelix and the Philosophy Documentation Center. <http://www.nlx.com/posp/index.htm> (accessed October 15, 2005).

POIESIS is in the first instance a full-text database of philosophy journals that contract with its two sponsoring organizations, Intelix and the Philosophy Documentation Center, to make their content available online to subscribing institutions only. Its search software, however, makes it an effective index to the journals included in the database—43 at this writing (October 2005), ranging from core comprehensive journals such as *The Journal of Philosophy* and *The Philosophical Quarterly* to highly specialized titles like the *Leibniz Review* or the *Journal of Consciousness Studies*. More than 20 others are slated to be added. Search options include table of contents browsing, author/title searches, and full-text searching by keyword or phrase. In general, searching, like full-text access, is restricted to subscribers, but visitors who register at the site are permitted to search tables of contents.