

Philosophy of Religion Comprehensive Exam Reading List

Peterson, Michael, William Hasker, Bruce Reichenbach, and David Basinger. *Reason and Religious Belief: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.
Peterson, Michael, William Hasker, Bruce Reichenbach, and David Basinger, eds. *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. [denoted below as Peterson]
Geivett, R. Douglas and Brendan Sweetman, eds. *Contemporary Perspectives on Religious Epistemology*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. [denoted below as GS]

Epistemology of Religion [note: all of these essays are in GS]

Phillips, D. Z. "Faith, Skepticism, and Religious Understanding"
Nielsen, Kai. "Does Religious Skepticism Rest on a Mistake?"
Plantinga, Alvin. "Is Belief in God Properly Basic?"
Partridge, Robert. "Experience, Proper Basicity, and Belief in God"
Goetz, Stewart C. "Belief in God is not Properly Basic"

Ethics of Belief

James, William. "The Will to Believe" [Peterson]
Clifford, William. "The Ethics of Belief" [Peterson]
Abraham, William J. "Soft Rationalism" [Peterson]
[articles in Int'l J of Phil of Religion issue ??]

Interpretation of Religious Language [all essays in Peterson]

Aquinas. "The Doctrine of Analogy"
Flew, Anthony and Basil Mitchell. "The Falsification Debate"
Tillich, Paul. "Religious Language as Symbolic"
Alston, William P. "Speaking Literally of God"

Religious Experience

James, William. "Religious Experience as the Root of Religion" [Peterson]
Alston, William P. "Religious Experience and Religious Belief" [GS]
Proudfoot, Wayne. "Explaining Religious Experience" [GS]
Martin, Michael. "Critique of Religious Experience" [Peterson]

The Problem of Evil [all essays in Peterson]

St. Augustine. "Evil is Privation of Good"
Hume, David. "Evil Makes a Strong Case against God's Existence"
Mackie, J. L. "Evil and Omnipotence"
Plantinga, Alvin "The Free Will Defense"
Hick, John. "Soul-Making Theodicy"
Rowe, William. "The Evidential Argument from Evil"

Arguments for God's existence [all essays in Peterson unless otherwise noted]

St. Anselm. "The Classical Ontological Argument"
Gaunilo "Critique of Anselm's Argument"
Aquinas. "The Classical Cosmological Argument"
Mackie, J. L. "Critique of the Cosmological Argument"
Pascal, Blaise. "The Wager"
Swinburne, Richard. "The Argument from Design" [GS]
Cahn, Steven M. "The Irrelevance to Religion of Philosophic Proofs for the Existence of God" [GS]