

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy

Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy form a fascinating tapestry of human thought, spanning centuries of intellectual exploration. These arguments have shaped the way we understand reality, ethics, knowledge, and existence itself. Delving into these pivotal debates offers not only a glimpse into the minds of some of history's greatest thinkers but also equips us with tools to critically analyze our own beliefs. In this article, we will explore some of these essential arguments, breaking down their core ideas in a way that is accessible, engaging, and insightful.

Understanding the Landscape of Western Philosophical Arguments

Western philosophy is rich with arguments that have provoked reflection and controversy. From ancient Greece to modern times, these arguments address fundamental questions: What can we know? What is the nature of reality? How should we live? Just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy cover a diverse range of topics, including metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, and logic.

By focusing on just the arguments, we get to the heart of philosophical inquiry without getting lost in excessive jargon or historical minutiae. This approach highlights the reasoning, evidence, and counterpoints that make these debates enduringly relevant.

The Role of Arguments in Philosophy

Philosophy thrives on argumentation. Unlike mere opinion, philosophical arguments rely on logic and critical thinking to support claims. Each argument typically consists of premises leading to a conclusion, inviting scrutiny and dialogue. Understanding these arguments helps us sharpen our reasoning skills and appreciate the complexity of philosophical issues.

Key Arguments in Metaphysics

Metaphysics explores the nature of reality and what exists beyond the physical world. Among the most important arguments here are those concerning existence, causality, and the mind-body relationship.

The Ontological Argument

One of the most famous metaphysical arguments is the Ontological Argument for the existence of God, first formulated by St. Anselm. It asserts that God, defined as the greatest conceivable being, must exist because existence is a perfection; if God did not exist, He wouldn't be the greatest conceivable being. This argument has sparked centuries of debate, with philosophers like Descartes refining it and Kant critiquing it.

The Cosmological Argument

Another cornerstone is the Cosmological Argument, which reasons from the existence of the universe to the necessity of a first cause or uncaused cause – often identified as God. It tackles questions about why there is something rather than nothing and highlights the principle of sufficient reason.

The Mind–Body Problem

Philosophers from Descartes to contemporary thinkers have wrestled with how mental states relate to physical bodies. Dualism posits that mind and body are distinct substances, whereas physicalism argues that everything, including consciousness, can be explained in physical terms. The arguments here influence debates in philosophy of mind and cognitive science.

Crucial Epistemological Arguments

Epistemology, the study of knowledge, is packed with arguments about what we can know and how we justify beliefs.

The Problem of Skepticism

Skepticism questions whether we can truly know anything at all. Arguments here often challenge the reliability of the senses or the possibility of certainty. Descartes' methodological skepticism famously begins by doubting everything that can be doubted, eventually arriving at the indubitable "I think, therefore I am."

The Gettier Problem

Traditionally, knowledge was defined as justified true belief. However, Edmund Gettier's 1963 paper presented scenarios where these conditions were met, yet intuitively, the individual did not have knowledge. This argument revolutionized epistemology by showing that justification and truth alone are insufficient for knowledge.

Foundationalism vs. Coherentism

Debates about the structure of knowledge include foundationalism, which claims there are basic beliefs that justify others, and coherentism, which argues that beliefs are justified by their coherence within a web of beliefs. These arguments shape how we think about justification and belief systems.

Ethical Arguments That Have Shaped Moral Philosophy

Ethics deals with questions of right and wrong, virtue, justice, and the good life. The just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy include many foundational ethical debates.

The Utilitarian Argument

Utilitarianism, championed by Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill, argues that the right action is the one that maximizes overall happiness or utility. This consequentialist viewpoint has been influential in moral and political philosophy, but it raises questions about justice and minority rights.

Kant's Categorical Imperative

Immanuel Kant introduced the Categorical Imperative as a way to determine moral duties irrespective of consequences. One formulation commands us to act only according to maxims that can be universalized. This argument emphasizes respect for persons and rationality.

The Euthyphro Dilemma

Originating from Plato's dialogue, this argument asks whether something is good because God commands it or if God commands it because it is good. It challenges divine command theories of morality and forces us to consider the nature of moral truths.

Political Philosophy and Social Contract Arguments

Political philosophy deals with governance, rights, and the legitimacy of authority.

The Social Contract Theory

Philosophers like Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau argued

that political authority arises from an implicit social contract among individuals. Hobbes famously believed in a strong sovereign to avoid the chaos of the “state of nature,” while Locke emphasized natural rights and government by consent.

The Argument from Justice

John Rawls’ “justice as fairness” argument uses the original position and veil of ignorance to derive principles of justice. This thought experiment pushes us to consider fairness and equality in structuring society.

Logic and Reasoning: The Backbone of Philosophical Arguments

Many of the just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy hinge on formal and informal logic.

Deductive vs. Inductive Arguments

Deductive arguments aim for certainty, where if the premises are true, the conclusion must be true. Inductive arguments, on the other hand, provide probable support. Understanding these distinctions is crucial to evaluating philosophical claims.

Fallacies and Their Impact

Recognizing fallacies, such as ad hominem attacks or straw man arguments, helps us avoid errors in reasoning. Many philosophical debates illustrate these pitfalls, highlighting the importance of sound argumentation.

Other Noteworthy Arguments in Western Philosophy

Beyond the major categories, several other arguments deserve mention for their impact.

The Problem of Evil

This argument challenges the coexistence of an omnipotent, omnibenevolent God with the presence of evil in the world. It’s a central issue in philosophy of religion and has inspired numerous responses, including theodicies and defenses.

The Trolley Problem

A modern ethical thought experiment, the Trolley Problem probes the conflict between utilitarian calculations and deontological ethics. It remains a staple in discussions about moral dilemmas.

The Paradox of the Heap (Sorites Paradox)

This paradox challenges vague predicates and has implications for language and metaphysics. It asks when a collection of grains stops being a heap, exposing problems with borderline cases.

Why Just the Arguments Matter

Focusing on just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy helps strip away unnecessary complexity and centers on the reasoning that underpins philosophical insights. Whether grappling with questions about existence, knowledge, morality, or society, the power of these arguments lies in their ability to provoke thought and deepen understanding.

Exploring these arguments also reveals the evolution of ideas and how new perspectives build upon or challenge old ones. For anyone interested in philosophy, engaging with these arguments is a rewarding way to develop critical thinking and appreciate the enduring quest for wisdom.

By immersing ourselves in just the arguments, we learn not only about philosophy but about how to think carefully and clearly about the world around us.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main focus of 'Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy'?

The book focuses on presenting and analyzing 100 key philosophical arguments from Western philosophy, providing concise summaries and critical insights into each argument.

How does 'Just the Arguments' help readers understand complex philosophical debates?

It distills complex philosophical arguments into clear, accessible explanations, enabling readers to grasp the core reasoning and significance without requiring extensive prior knowledge.

Which areas of philosophy are covered in 'Just the

Arguments ' ?

The book covers a wide range of areas including metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of mind, and logic, among others.

Can 'Just the Arguments' be used as a study guide for philosophy students?

Yes, it is an excellent resource for students as it provides succinct summaries of important arguments, helping them review and understand foundational philosophical ideas effectively.

Does 'Just the Arguments' include arguments from contemporary philosophers or only historical figures?

The book primarily features arguments from both historical and influential contemporary philosophers, ensuring a comprehensive overview of Western philosophical thought.

How is 'Just the Arguments' structured to facilitate learning?

Each entry presents the argument in a structured format, often including the original formulation, a brief explanation, and critical commentary, which aids in comprehension and critical engagement.

Additional Resources

****Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy****

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy represent a foundational pillar in understanding the intellectual heritage of the Western world. These arguments, ranging from metaphysics and ethics to epistemology and political philosophy, have shaped centuries of discourse and continue to influence contemporary thought. This article takes an analytical approach to highlight and dissect some of these key arguments, demonstrating their significance and enduring relevance.

The study of Western philosophy is often marked by the rigorous debate and articulation of arguments that seek to clarify complex ideas about reality, knowledge, morality, and society. By focusing on just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy, we delve into a rich tapestry of critical reasoning that has defined major philosophical movements, from ancient Greek thought to modern analytic philosophy.

Foundations of Western Philosophical Argumentation

The nature of philosophical arguments in Western tradition is characterized by logical structure, clarity, and a pursuit of truth through reasoned

debate. Many of these arguments serve as responses to perennial questions: What is knowledge? What is the nature of reality? How should one live? The arguments provide frameworks for addressing these questions systematically.

Metaphysical Arguments

Metaphysics, concerning the nature of being and existence, provides some of the most profound arguments in philosophy. Among these:

- **The Ontological Argument:** Originating with Anselm of Canterbury, this argument posits that God's existence can be deduced purely through reason by defining God as the greatest conceivable being, which must exist in reality to be the greatest.
- **The Cosmological Argument:** Advocated by thinkers like Aquinas, it reasons from the existence of the universe to the necessity of a first cause or unmoved mover, often identified with God.
- **The Argument from Contingency:** This argument states that since things in the universe exist contingently, there must be a necessary being that explains their existence.

These metaphysical arguments have sparked centuries of debate, influencing theology, philosophy of religion, and metaphysics.

Epistemological Arguments

Epistemology, the study of knowledge, centers on how we come to know what we know. Key arguments include:

- **Descartes' Cogito Argument:** René Descartes famously declared, "Cogito, ergo sum" ("I think, therefore I am"), establishing a foundational certainty in the face of radical doubt.
- **The Problem of Induction:** David Hume questioned the justification for inductive reasoning, arguing that our belief in the uniformity of nature is not rationally justified but rather a habit of thought.
- **The Gettier Problem:** Edmund Gettier challenged the classical definition of knowledge as "justified true belief" by presenting cases where these conditions are met but intuitively do not constitute knowledge.

These arguments underscore the complexity of knowledge and the challenges in establishing certainty.

Ethical Arguments

Ethics, or moral philosophy, explores questions of right and wrong, good and

evil. Some pivotal arguments include:

- **Kant's Categorical Imperative:** Immanuel Kant argued that moral actions must be universally applicable, emphasizing duty and the intrinsic worth of rational beings.
- **Utilitarianism:** Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill posited that the morality of an action depends on its consequences, specifically in maximizing happiness or utility.
- **The Divine Command Theory:** This holds that moral rightness depends on the commands of a divine being, linking ethics with theology.

These ethical arguments continue to influence contemporary moral debates, from bioethics to political theory.

Political and Social Philosophy Arguments

Western philosophy is also rich in arguments concerning governance, justice, and society.

Social Contract Theories

Philosophers like Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau formulated social contract arguments to explain the legitimacy of political authority. For example:

- **Hobbes' Leviathan:** Argues that in the state of nature, life is "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short," necessitating a social contract to form a sovereign power.
- **Locke's Natural Rights:** Emphasizes life, liberty, and property as natural rights that governments must protect, justifying resistance against tyranny.
- **Rousseau's General Will:** Advocates a collective sovereignty where the general will represents the common good.

These arguments have profoundly shaped modern democracy and legal systems.

Justice and Equality

Philosophers have debated the nature of justice and equality extensively:

- **Rawls' Theory of Justice:** John Rawls introduced the "original position" and "veil of ignorance" as arguments for principles of justice that

ensure fairness.

- **Nozick's Entitlement Theory:** Robert Nozick argued against redistributive justice, emphasizing individual rights and the inviolability of private property.

Such debates illuminate the tension between individual freedom and social equity.

Logic and Language Arguments

The evolution of logic and language philosophy has generated arguments crucial for understanding human thought and communication.

Logical Positivism and Verification

The Vienna Circle's logical positivists argued that meaningful statements must be empirically verifiable, dismissing metaphysical claims as nonsensical. This argument influenced analytic philosophy and the philosophy of science.

The Language-World Relationship

Ludwig Wittgenstein's early work proposed that the structure of language mirrors reality, while his later philosophy emphasized language games and the pragmatic use of language. These arguments challenge traditional notions of meaning and truth.

Key Features of These Arguments

Just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy share several defining features:

1. **Rigor and Precision:** They rely on clear definitions and logical coherence.
2. **Dialectical Nature:** Most arguments respond to or build upon previous ones, creating an ongoing dialogue.
3. **Relevance Across Disciplines:** Many arguments impact not only philosophy but also theology, science, law, and politics.
4. **Enduring Influence:** Despite evolving contexts, these arguments remain central to philosophical inquiry.

This rigor helps distinguish philosophical reasoning from other forms of

discourse.

Challenges in Engaging with Philosophical Arguments

Engaging with just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy involves navigating several challenges:

- **Complexity and Abstraction:** Many arguments deal with abstract concepts that require careful unpacking.
- **Cultural and Historical Context:** Understanding the original context improves comprehension but may also create barriers.
- **Terminological Variance:** Philosophical terms often have nuanced meanings that differ across traditions.
- **Interpretative Disputes:** Multiple interpretations exist, sometimes leading to divergent conclusions.

Despite these challenges, these arguments continue to be the subject of active scholarship and teaching.

Why Study Just the Arguments 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy?

Studying these arguments offers several benefits:

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** Engaging with complex arguments enhances analytical abilities.
- **Historical Insight:** They provide a window into the evolution of human thought and culture.
- **Practical Application:** Many arguments inform contemporary ethical, political, and scientific debates.
- **Intellectual Tradition:** They connect learners with a rich philosophical heritage.

By focusing on these key arguments, one gains a panoramic view of Western philosophy's intellectual landmarks.

In sum, just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy represent a carefully curated selection of reasoning that has shaped the contours of philosophical inquiry and human understanding. Their continued study not only enriches our grasp of philosophical issues but also equips us with tools to navigate the complexities of modern life.

Just The Arguments 100 Of The Most Important Arguments In Western Philosophy

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: *Just the Arguments* Michael Bruce, Steven Barbone, 2011-08-24 Does the existence of evil call into doubt the existence of God? Show me the argument. Philosophy starts with questions, but attempts at answers are just as important, and these answers require reasoned argument. Cutting through dense philosophical prose, 100 famous and influential arguments are presented in their essence, with premises, conclusions and logical form plainly identified. Key quotations provide a sense of style and approach. Just the Arguments is an invaluable one-stop argument shop. A concise, formally structured summation of 100 of the most important arguments in Western philosophy The first book of its kind to present the most important and influential philosophical arguments in a clear premise/conclusion format, the language that philosophers use and students are expected to know Offers succinct expositions of key philosophical arguments without bogging them down in commentary Translates difficult texts to core arguments Designed to provides a quick and compact reference to everything from Aquinas' "Five Ways" to prove the existence of God, to the metaphysical possibilities of a zombie world

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: Bad Arguments Robert Arp, Steven Barbone, Michael Bruce, 2018-09-28 A timely and accessible guide to 100 of the most infamous logical fallacies in Western philosophy, helping readers avoid and detect false assumptions and faulty reasoning You'll love this book or you'll hate it. So, you're either with us or against us. And if you're against us then you hate books. No true intellectual would hate this book. Ever decide to avoid a restaurant because of one bad meal? Choose a product because a celebrity endorsed it? Or ignore what a politician says because she's not a member of your party? For as long as people have been discussing, conversing, persuading, advocating, proselytizing, pontificating, or otherwise stating their case, their arguments have been vulnerable to false assumptions and faulty reasoning. Drawing upon a long history of logical falsehoods and philosophical flubs, Bad Arguments demonstrates how misguided arguments come to be, and what we can do to detect them in the rhetoric of others and avoid using them ourselves. Fallacies—or conclusions that don't follow from their premise—are at the root of most bad arguments, but it can be easy to stumble into a fallacy without realizing it. In this clear and concise guide to good arguments gone bad, Robert Arp, Steven Barbone, and Michael Bruce take readers through 100 of the most infamous fallacies in Western philosophy, identifying the most common missteps, pitfalls, and dead-ends of arguments gone awry. Whether an instance of sunk costs, is ought, affirming the consequent, moving the goal post, begging the question, or the ever-popular slippery slope, each fallacy engages with examples drawn from contemporary politics, economics, media, and popular culture. Further diagrams and tables supplement entries and contextualize common errors in logical reasoning. At a time in our world when it is crucial to be able to identify and challenge rhetorical half-truths, this book helps readers to better understand flawed argumentation and develop logical literacy. Unrivaled in its breadth of coverage and a worthy companion to its sister volume *Just the Arguments* (2011), *Bad Arguments* is an essential tool for undergraduate students and general readers looking to hone their critical thinking and rhetorical skills.

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just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: The Relativity of Theory Moti Mizrahi, 2020-09-29 This book offers a close and rigorous examination of the arguments for and against scientific realism and introduces key positions in the scientific realism/antirealism debate, which is one of the central debates in contemporary philosophy of science. On the one hand, scientific realists argue that we have good reasons to believe that our best scientific theories are approximately true because, if they were not even approximately true, they would not be able to explain and predict natural phenomena with such impressive accuracy. On the other hand, antirealists argue that the success of science does not warrant belief in the approximate truth of our best scientific theories. This is because the history of science is a graveyard of theories that were once successful but were later discarded. The author eventually settles on a middle-ground position between scientific realism and antirealism called "relative realism".

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences Byron Kaldis, 2013-03-07 This encyclopedia, magnificently edited by Byron Kaldis, will become a valuable source both of reference and inspiration for all those who are interested in the interrelation between philosophy and the many facets of the social sciences. A must read for every student of the humanities. Wulf Gaertner, University of Osnabrueck, Germany Like all good works of reference this Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences is not to be treated passively: it provides clear and sometimes controversial material for constructive confrontation. It is a rich resource for critical engagement. The Encyclopedia conceived and edited by Byron Kaldis is a work of impressive scope and I am delighted to have it on my bookshelf." David Bloor, Edinburgh University This splendid and possibly unique work steers a skilful course between narrower conceptions of philosophy and the social sciences. It will be an invaluable resource for students and researchers in either or both fields, and to anyone working on the interrelations between them. William Outhwaite, Newcastle University The Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences is the first of its kind in bringing the subjects of philosophy and the social sciences together. It is not only about the philosophy of the social sciences but, going beyond that, it is also about the relationship between philosophy and the social sciences. The subject of the Encyclopedia is purposefully multi- and inter-disciplinary. Knowledge boundaries are both delineated and crossed over. The goal is to convey a clear sense of how philosophy looks at the social sciences and to mark out a detailed picture of how the two are interrelated: interwoven at certain times but also differentiated and contrasted at others. The Entries cover topics of central significance but also those that are both controversial and on the cutting-edge, underlining the unique mark of this Encyclopedia: the interrelationship between philosophy and the social sciences, especially as it is found in fresh ideas and unprecedented hybrid disciplinary areas. The Encyclopedia serves a further dual purpose: it contributes to the renewal of the philosophy of the social sciences and helps to promote novel modes of thinking about some of its classic problems.

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discussion, the workhorse of pragma-dialectics. Part I shows how the two parties go through the four stages of a critical discussion. It highlights the questions raised over and beyond the presiding question of whether God exists and examines almost a hundred questions that are raised. Many are left in the air, whereas a few others give rise to sundry sub-discussions or meta-dialogues. In Part II the theoretical framework of argument dialectic is put to work: argument structures are identified by means of punctuation marks, argumentative connectors and operators, allowing to see the argumentative exchange as the collaborative construction of a macro-argument. Such a macro-argument is both a joint product of the arguers and a complex structure representing the dialectical relationships between the individual arguments combined in it. Finally, the complementarity of the two approaches is addressed. Thus the book can be described as an exercise in adversarial collaboration.

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Philosophical Writing A. P. Martinich, 2015-09-08 Philosophical Writing: An Introduction, 4th Edition, features numerous updates and revisions to A. P. Martinich's best-selling text that instructs beginning philosophy students on how to craft a well-written philosophical essay. Features an entirely new chapter on how to read a philosophical essay, new sections on quantification and modality, and rhetoric in philosophical writing, as well as more updated essay examples Includes many new essay examples and an accompanying website with further topics and examples Traces the evolution of a good philosophical essay from draft stage to completion Emphasizes what a student should do in crafting an essay, rather than on what not to do Written with clarity and humor by a leading philosopher

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: Key

Debates in Social Work and Philosophy Tom Grimwood, 2015-09-16 In order to practice effectively in today's complex and changing environment, social workers need to have an understanding of how contemporary cultural and philosophical concepts relate to the people they work with and the fields they practice in. Exploring the ideas of philosophers, including Nietzsche, Gadamer, Taylor, Adorno, MacIntyre, Zizek and Derrida, this text demonstrates their relevance to social work practice and presents new approaches and frameworks to understanding social change. Key Debates in Social Work and Philosophy introduces a range of concerns central to social work and social care, with chapters looking at questions such as: - What is the 'self'? - How are communities formed? - Why is 'choice' important? - Are certain rights really applicable to all humans? - What are the political and ethical implications of documenting your practice? - What does it mean to be a professional social worker? Each chapter focuses on a particular area of dispute, presenting the relevant philosophical theories, and considering how relevant social work examples and research can be used to further inform theoretical debate, and includes questions to prompt discussion and reflection. The only book to examine the philosophical ideas that underlie and inform contemporary issues for social work and social care practitioners, this is a useful resource for those studying social work theory, policy and practice.

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Critical Introduction to Fictionalism Frederick Kroon, Jonathan McKeown-Green, Stuart Brock, 2018-12-13 A Critical Introduction to Fictionalism provides a clear and comprehensive understanding of an important alternative to realism. Drawing on questions from ethics, the philosophy of religion, art, mathematics, logic and science, this is a complete exploration of how fictionalism contrasts with other non-realist doctrines and motivates influential fictionalist treatments across a range of philosophical issues. Defending and criticizing influential as well as emerging fictionalist approaches, this accessible overview discusses physical objects, universals, God, moral properties, numbers and other fictional entities. Where possible it draws general lessons about the conditions under which a fictionalist treatment of a class of items is plausible. Distinguishing fictionalism from other views about the existence of items, it explains the central features of this key metaphysical topic. Featuring a historical survey, definitions of key terms, characterisations of important subdivisions, objections and problems for fictionalism, and

contemporary fictionalist treatments of several issues, *A Critical Introduction to Fictionalism* is a valuable resource for students of metaphysics as well as students of philosophical methodology. It is the only book of its kind.

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy:

Disserted Dunia Zongwe, 2023-09-30 *Disserted* is a groundbreaking, comprehensive book that guides LL.B students on how to craft a first-class dissertation. It tackles head-on the triple crisis faced by law students in developing nations - a crisis of doubting, thinking, and writing. This crisis manifests itself in the form of poorly written dissertations. This is the first book to show how to practically assemble a dissertation from the perspective of decoloniality. This makes *Disserted* uniquely suited to students from the Global South, considering that decoloniality empowers them to overcome the triple crisis. Indeed, its originality in presenting practical advice and decolonial theory sets this book apart from the handful of guides on LL.B dissertations. Existing resources and manuals are filled with generalities and lack in practicality. Written in student-friendly prose, its 23 chapters cover a wide range of topics, including research proposals, topic selection, purpose and problem statements, literature reviews, digital tools and models powered by artificial intelligence (AI), the basics of legal prompt engineering, plagiarism, grammar, and research methods. Each chapter offers secrets and deep insights, drawing from the author's extensive experience in supervising LL.B dissertations and research papers, notably in Southern Africa and India. Though primarily targeting LL.B students, *Disserted* also serves as an essential companion and indispensable resource for supervisors, law professors, jurists, and anyone interested in unraveling the complexities of writing dissertations. Overall, *Disserted* underscores the importance of structured dissertation writing coupled with a decolonized research approach that subverts dominant perspectives, exposes the role of AI and technology in entrenching the coloniality of knowledge, and fosters a broader understanding of law.

just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy:

Philosophy of Population Health Sean Valles, 2018-05-11 Population health has recently grown from a series of loosely connected critiques of twentieth-century public health and medicine into a theoretical framework with a corresponding field of research—population health science. Its approach is to promote the public's health through improving everyday human life: affordable nutritious food, clean air, safe places where children can play, living wages, etc. It recognizes that addressing contemporary health challenges such as the prevalence of type 2 diabetes will take much more than good hospitals and public health departments. Blending philosophy of science/medicine, public health ethics and history, this book offers a framework that explains, analyses and largely endorses the features that define this relatively new field. Presenting a philosophical perspective, Valles helps to clarify what these features are and why they matter, including: searching for health's upstream causes in social life, embracing a professional commitment to studying and ameliorating the staggering health inequities in and between populations; and reforming scientific practices to foster humility and respect among the many scientists and non-scientists who must work collaboratively to promote health. Featuring illustrative case studies from around the globe at the end of all main chapters, this radical monograph is written to be accessible to all scholars and advanced students who have an interest in health—from public health students to professional philosophers.

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Debating Christian Religious Epistemology John M. DePoe, Tyler Dalton McNabb, 2020-02-06 What does it mean to believe in God? What passes as evidence for belief in God? What issues arise when considering the rationality of belief in God? *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology* introduces core questions in the philosophy of religion by bringing five competing viewpoints on the knowledge of God into critical dialogue with one another. Each chapter introduces an epistemic viewpoint, providing an overview of its main arguments and explaining why it justifies belief. The validity of that viewpoint is then explored and tested in a critical response from an expert in an opposing tradition. Featuring a wide range of different philosophical positions, traditions and methods, this

introduction: - Covers classical evidentialism, phenomenal conservatism, proper functionalism, covenantal epistemology and traditions-based perspectivalism - Draws on MacIntyre's account of rationality and ideas from the Analytic and Conservatism traditions - Addresses issues in social epistemology - Considers the role of religious experience and religious texts Packed with lively debates, this is an ideal starting point for anyone interested in understanding the major positions in contemporary religious epistemology and how religious concepts and practices relate to belief and knowledge.

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just the arguments 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy: Halo and Philosophy Luke Cuddy, 2011-04-12 Since the Doom series, First Person Shooter (FPS) videogames have ricocheted through the gaming community, often reaching outside that community to the wider public. While critics primarily lampoon FPSs for their aggressiveness and on-screen violence, gamers see something else. Halo is one of the greatest, most successful FPSs ever to grace the world of gaming. Although Halo is a FPS, it has a science-fiction storyline that draws from previous award-winning science fiction literature. It employs a game mechanic that limits the amount of weapons a player can carry to two, and a multiplayer element that has spawned websites like Red vs. Blue and games within the game created by players themselves. Halo's unique and extraordinary features raise serious questions. Are gamers really doing anything wrong? Does Halo's music match the experience of the gamer? Would Plato have used Halo to train citizens to live an ethical life? What sort of Artificial Intelligence exists in Halo and how is it used? Can the player's experience of war tell us anything about actual war? Is there meaning to Master Chief's rough existence? How does it affect the player's ego if she identifies too strongly with an aggressive character like Master Chief? Is Halo really science fiction? Can Halo be used for enlightenment-oriented thinking in the Buddhist sense? Does Halo's weapon limitation actually contribute to the depth of the gameplay? When we willingly play Halo only to die again and again, are we engaging in some sort of self-injurious behavior? What is expansive gameplay and how can it be informed by the philosophy of Michel Foucault? In what way does Halo's post-apocalyptic paradigm force gamers to see themselves as agents of divine deliverance? What can Red vs. Blue teach us about personal identity? These questions are tackled by writers who are both Halo cognoscenti and active philosophers, with a foreword by renowned Halo fiction author Fred Van Lente and an afterword by leading games scholar and artist Roger Ngim.

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