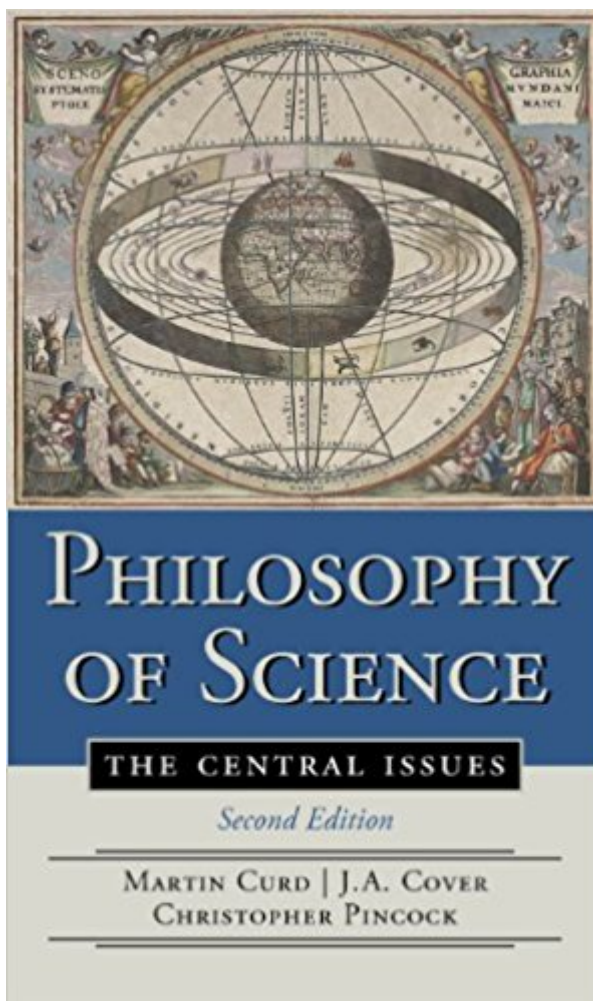


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# Philosophy Of Science: The Central Issues (Second Edition)



## Synopsis

A flexible and comprehensive introduction to the main currents in philosophy of science. Both an anthology and an introductory textbook, *Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues* offers instructors and students a comprehensive anthology of fifty-two primary texts by leading philosophers in the field and provides extensive editorial commentary that places the readings in a wide philosophical context.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

J. A. Cover is professor of philosophy at Purdue University. Leaving a research post after completing a B.S. in biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California, Davis, he took a B.A. in philosophy at Syracuse University, where he later received his M.A. and Ph.D. Published widely in journals and books on issues in early modern philosophy, metaphysics, and philosophy of science, he is coeditor of *Central Themes in Early Modern Philosophy* (Hackett, 1990), coauthor of *Theories of Knowledge and Reality, Second Edition* (McGraw-Hill, 1994), coauthor of *Leibniz on Substance and Individuation* (Cambridge, 1999), and coeditor of *Leibniz: Nature and Freedom* (Oxford, 2005). Martin Curd is associate professor of philosophy at Purdue University. He has a B.A. in natural sciences from Cambridge University and a Ph.D. in history and philosophy of science from the University of Pittsburgh. Working mainly in philosophy of science and epistemology, he is coeditor of *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Science* (2008). Christopher Pincock is associate professor of philosophy at The Ohio State University. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy

from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002. Pincock has published articles in the philosophy of science, the philosophy of mathematics and the history of analytic philosophy. His book *Mathematics and Scientific Representation* (Oxford) was published in 2012.

This book was recommended as essential reading to accompany The Teaching Company's course "Philosophy of Science". It covered many of the issues presented in the course. The book is an introduction to the current issues. The arguments are well thought out and presented clearly. It appears that there is no 'Look inside' feature so here is a peak at the high level contents<sup>1</sup>. Science and Pseudoscience<sup>2</sup>. Rationality, Objectivity, and Values in Science<sup>3</sup>. The Duhem-Quine thesis and Underdetermination<sup>4</sup>. Induction, Prediction, and Evidence<sup>5</sup>. Confirmation and Relevance: Bayesian Approaches<sup>6</sup>. Models of Explanation<sup>7</sup>. Laws of Nature<sup>8</sup>. Intertheoretic Reduction<sup>9</sup>. Empiricism and Scientific Realism<sup>1</sup> should also add that the book has an introduction and to each of the above sections. Each section is followed by a commentary of each article therein. Finally, the book has a glossary, name index, and subject index.

Used this book for an undergraduate philosophy of science course. The volume contains a large number of extremely seminal papers with an accessibility that ranges from the relatively easy (e.g. Hempel's D-N model) to more difficult works (e.g. Quine's Two Dogmas). As a collection of historically relevant philosophy of science papers, you certainly cannot go wrong with this choice.

Great anthology and survey of significant works in the field of Phil of Sci. This book has inspired me to look into Thomas Kuhn's contributions to the field. Kuhn is a sloppy writer and easy to critique [as this book shows], however, he has some 'revolutionary' ideas [no pun intended] as to the nature of paradigm shift in the scientific community. The book gives bits of other great works from such people as Hemple, Laudan, and even Popper. Highly recommended if you are looking for a survey of works in the field of Philosophy of Science.

The articles I read from this book for my philosophy of science class were fantastic. Authors such as Karl Popper, Thomas Kuhn, Larry Laudan, Pierre Duhem, Arthur Fine, etc. are well worth the read. We did not read all the articles, however, because the book is so comprehensive. This means that it will serve as an excellent reference guide to come back to later. The book also has an attractive text, layout, and a good feel to it.

Great rental; interesting book! Took a class that used this as its textbook. I am a chemistry major and thought philosophy of science (an option for a general education class under the critical thinking requirements for graduation) would be an interesting option. If you consider yourself science oriented, this class will challenge your beliefs. Book is worded towards philosophy majors or people that have already attained their degrees.

There are more essays in here than we could fit into one semester, and each one can serve as a month's lesson. It's held up pretty well for the amount of use and abuse I've put into it, but it would be better if it was a hardcover. Even if you're not taking a PH class and you're just curious about the underlying philosophy of the scientific method then this book is for you.

The book was in good condition and well worth the price. I always enjoy finding my school needs at a discounted rate. It is even better when the seller's description of the product matches what arrives on your doorstep.

Great collection of works

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