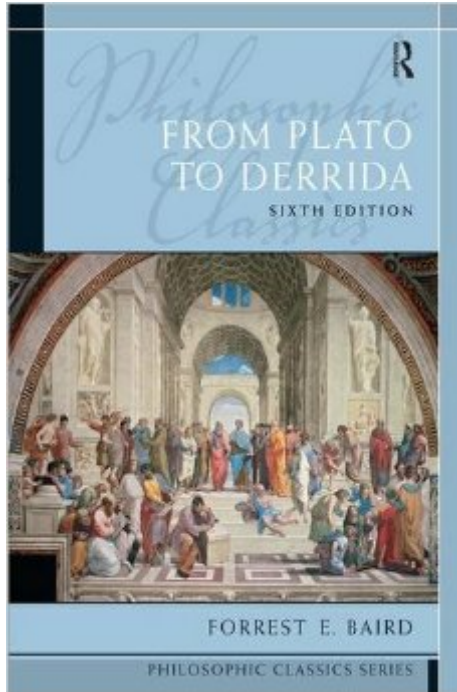


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# Philosophic Classics: From Plato To Derrida (Philosophical Classics)



## Synopsis

First published in 1961, Forrest E. Baird's revision of *Philosophic Classics* continues the tradition of providing generations of students with high quality course material. Using the complete works, or where appropriate, complete sections of works, this anthology allows philosophers to speak directly to students. Esteemed for providing the best available translations, *Philosophic Classics: From Plato to Derrida*, features complete works or complete sections of the most important works by the major thinkers, as well as shorter samples from transitional thinkers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you teach Introduction to Philosophy using a historical approach, this is the text I recommend. I used "The *Philosophic Classics* 2nd edition, From Plato to Nietzsche" for my classes and was looking for a text with the same basic works with some more contemporary materials. I find the updated 3rd edition, "From Plato to Derrida" the perfect solution. Instead of having to look through more textbooks for the right stuff, this is it.

"From Plato to Derrida" provides portions of a significant number of the writings of the major philosophers past and present in one large volume. While one might quibble here and there with why a particular philosopher is represented and another is not, or why a certain portion of a philosophical work is included at the expense of another section of that same work, for the most part

the truly crucial texts in the history of philosophy are found in this volume. In addition, the editor provides a helpful introduction to the writings of each philosopher whose works have been anthologized. As such, it would be an excellent primary-source text for a history of philosophy class. I would not recommend it for the typical introduction to philosophy class, since many of the selections require some prior familiarity with the issues of philosophy to really understand adequately. Some will also regard the fact that the editor has chosen to present various "selections" from longer works as a drawback, since this procedure inevitably leaves out certain arguments that may be crucial to understanding the philosopher's overall thesis. However, it is hard to see how this can be avoided in an anthology of this sort. All in all, I would recommend "From Plato to Derrida" as a pretty good anthology at a relatively affordable price.

If you are interested in reading philosopher's, it's okay. My teacher (who knows Latin) said the book was translated weird, but it was still a fairly okay read. Definitely would not have bought it if it wasn't for class.

"From Plato to Derrida" is a single volume of nearly 1200 pages, which provides portions of a significant number of the writings of the major philosophers past and present. For the most part the volume contains the truly crucial texts in the history of philosophy. The editor provides a helpful introduction to the writings of each philosopher whose works have been anthologized. This volume would be an excellent primary-source text for a history of philosophy class. It is a good anthology at a relatively affordable price.

This one-volume anthology edited by Forrest Baird is an abridgment of the five-volume Philosophic Classics series by the same editor. While this volume does not contain writings from all the philosophers in the five-volume series, it contains the significant writings of the central figures in the history of philosophy. Included (among others) are writings by Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Plotinus, Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Maimonides, Aquinas, Ockham, Descartes, Hobbes, Pascal, Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Mill, Kierkegaard, Marx, Nietzsche, Husserl, Russell, Heidegger, Wittgenstein, Ayer, Sartre, and Derrida. In addition to leaving out some of the more minor philosophers anthologized in the five-volume series, this one-volume anthology has somewhat more abbreviated selections from the major philosophers. Even so, there are some fairly significant chunks of material from the major works of the above-mentioned philosophers. This would be a good anthology for an upper-division history of philosophy course. There's enough material

here even for a two-semester history of philosophy sequence.

Another master piece for your books shelf. This work is more in depth and delves into snippets of the various authors' works. We are assigned this book in a class for MTh. An excellent resource, a book shelf keeper.

Great study of major philosophies that have impacted our western culture. Very enjoyable and easy reading, yet stimulating and intellectual...Loved the book!

In 1913 Wilhelm Wundt published a paper entitled "Psychology's Struggle for Existence", which detailed the dangers of psychology's divorce from philosophy. The divorce did happen with psychology being entrenched in a discourse about bottom up mental processing, the result of environmental stimuli. This book allows a person to learn, not the rudiments, but the historicity of top down mental processing, the result of life's experience. This book covers about 2,400 years of human thought, and while each writing is presented as originally written, it is accompanied by a narrative that includes a dedicated bibliography, which in turn allows a reader to pursue their own interests. Without philosophy, Wundt's plea, the study of psychology is literally the study of an upscale primate.

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