This preliminary reading list is for Pembroke students taking PPE, Philosophy & Psychology, Philosophy & Modern Languages, and Philosophy & Theology.

In their first year course, Philosophy students take a paper called *Introduction to Philosophy*. This paper is divided into Logic, General Philosophy and Moral Philosophy. You are encouraged to read as much as you can from the preparatory readings given below; doing so will certainly help make your first year easier!

**Logic**

This course is an introduction to logic. There is one set text:

Volker Halbach *The Logic Manual*

**General Philosophy**

The course concentrates on topics connected to knowledge, reasoning, mind and body, personal identity, free will and the existence of God. Useful introductory texts are:

- Thomas Nagel *What Does It All Mean?*
- E. Conee and T. Sider *Riddles of Existence*
- Bertrand Russell *Problems of Philosophy* [available online]

All three contain discussions of topics in general philosophy which will be covered in your first year, in particular the first six chapters of Russell’s book, chapters 1 and 6 of the Conee and Sider book and chapters 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Nagel book. Nagel’s book contains, in addition, discussions that will be relevant to your study of Moral Philosophy.

**Moral Philosophy**

This part of the course introduces some key themes in moral philosophy through a study of J.S. Mill’s utilitarian ethics.

- John Stuart Mill *Utilitarianism* [available online]
- Roger Crisp *Mill on Utilitarianism*
- J J C Smart & B. Williams *Utilitarianism: For and Against*

Crisp is an excellent introduction to Mill’s views. Smart and Williams contains both a recent defence of utilitarianism (by Smart) and important criticism (by Williams).

*- Guy Kahane and James Read, Philosophy Fellows, Pembroke College*