

Direct line: 01865 278949

Dear Philosopher,

We are looking forward to welcoming you to St Peter's in Michaelmas term.

We would like to ask you to do some reading before you come up.

A good introduction to the style of thinking that the study of Philosophy encourages is *Bad Thoughts: A Guide to Clear Thinking* by Jamie Whyte (Corvo Books). Note: you don't have to believe that all his examples are really examples of the things he takes them to be examples of, but if you don't, make sure you consider why it is you don't.

From the following list, those admitted to read for *Philosophy, Politics and Economics*, *Philosophy and Theology*, and *Philosophy and Modern Languages* should read Hospers, Dancy, and Mill; those admitted to read for *Philosophy and Mathematics*, should read Hospers, Dancy, and Frege; and those admitted to read for *Philosophy and Physics* should read Hospers, Dancy, and Leibniz/Clarke.

J. Hospers, *An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis*

J. Dancy, *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*

J. S. Mill, *Utilitarianism*

G. Frege, *The Foundations of Arithmetic*, ideally in J. L. Austin's translation.

Mark Sainsbury *Logical Forms* (2nd edition, Blackwell, 2001)

Samuel Guttenplan *The Languages of Logic* (Chapters 1-8)

Alexander, *The Leibniz-Clarke Correspondence*

In addition to the reading above, all philosophy students study Logic in the first year. In preparation for Logic, read the first two chapters of Mark Sainsbury's *Logical Forms* and Samuel Guttenplan's *The Languages of Logic* (Chapters 1-8). (Please note that some of the technical details in these books are slightly different to those taught in the course, so you don't have to slavishly learn the definitions, but they should give you an accessible introduction to the general ideas and techniques. The official text book for the course is *The Logic Manual* by Volker Halbach and you will need a copy when you start the course. You might want to look at this beforehand, although it is quite technical and easier to follow once the lectures have started.)

With best wishes for the summer vacation,

Drs T Mawson, P. Kail, and S. Allen