Feminist Philosophy Comprehensive: Reading List

The main part of this list comprises readings that correspond to each of the five sections of the comprehensive exam. Please note, however, that these readings do not (by themselves) provide sufficient overall background to pass the exam, which is designed primarily for students who will undertake dissertations in the area of feminist philosophy. The committee assumes that anyone who plans to write this exam has a good general background in feminist philosophy acquired through previous coursework. If you have such a background but feel a bit shaky on specific ideas or arguments, you may wish to consult the books listed at the end under the rubric “Some Useful Reference Books.”

1. Core Concepts

Feminism


Sex and Gender


Oppression

Cudd, A. *Analyzing Oppression*. Chapters 3 and 7: “Psychological Mechanisms of Oppression” and “Resistance and Responsibility” (total 60 pages)


*Difference and Intersectionality*


*Privilege and Responsibility*


*2. Subjectivity and Embodiment*
Bartky, S. “Feminine Masochism and the Politics of Personal Transformation,” and “Shame and Gender.” In her Femininity and Domination (see above). pp. 45-62, and 83-98.


3. Feminist Moral and Political Philosophy

Baier, A. “What do women want in a moral theory?” and “The Need for more than


MacKinnon, C. "Difference and Dominance: On Sex Discrimination." In Feminism Unmodified.


Okin, S. M. “Toward a Humanist Justice.” In Cudd & Andreasen: 403-413.


4. Feminist Philosophy of Science


* These articles are reprinted in *The Gender of Science*, Janet A. Kourany (ed.). Prentice Hall 2002. Note that some of these "reprints" are slightly abridged

5. Feminist Perspectives on the History of Philosophy


Some Useful Reference Books

A Companion to Feminist Philosophy, ed. by Alison M. Jaggar and Iris Marion Young (Blackwell, 1998; 2000 pbk).

The Cambridge Companion to Feminism in Philosophy, ed. by Miranda Fricker and Jennifer Hornsby (Cambridge, 2000).

Feminist Theory: A Philosophical Anthology, ed. by A. Cudd and R. Andreasen (Blackwell, 2005).
