






Wallington
County Grammar School

PHILOSOPHY

Recommended Pre-work 2025/26

| NAME OF SUBJECT | |
|--|--|
| Name and email address of Subject Leader to be contacted if you have any issues with this Bridging Work: | aphilippou@wcgschool.co.uk Mr Philippou |
| Time required to complete this task: | All optional: see tier list below for suggested timings |
| Task details: | <p> Year 11 → Year 12 Philosophy: Recommended Reading & Viewing</p> <p>So, you're thinking about philosophy? Good. But be warned: real philosophy changes you. Whether you're dipping a toe or diving headfirst, here's a tiered guide to prepare you for the challenges—and thrills—of A-Level Philosophy.</p> <hr/> <p> Tier 1: Just Get a Feel (1 hour)</p> <p>Goal: Begin thinking like a philosopher.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch: <i>Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?</i> – Lecture 1 by Michael Sandel:https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBdfcR-8hEY |

- A masterclass in clear thinking and real-life moral dilemmas. Accessible and thought-provoking.
-

● Tier 2: Test the Waters (5 hours +)

Goal: Explore deeper ideas in reality, mind, and morality.

- 📖 **Read:** *Reality+: Virtual Worlds and the Problems of Philosophy* – David Chalmers
A gripping introduction to epistemology and metaphysics through the lens of simulation theory.
 - 👥 **Watch more from:**
 - *Justice* – pick 2 more lectures that interest you
 - *Death* by Professor Shelley Kagan – start here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2J7wSuFRl8>
 - This course is funnier and more rigorous than you might expect. It's Yale-level philosophy, free.
-

● Tier 3: The Deep Dive (10 hours +)

Goal: Build a serious philosophical foundation in moral philosophy, metaphysics, and epistemology.

- 📖 **Read both:**
 - *Think* – Simon Blackburn
A witty, accessible survey of the big questions in philosophy.
 - *Reality+* – David Chalmers (if you haven't already)
- 👥 **Watch the full series:**
 - *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* – all 12 lectures

- *Death* – all 26 lectures by Shelley Kagan
-

 **Warning**

If you complete **Tier 3**, you won't be the same person who started. Philosophy does that. It captures you. It sharpens your mind, unsettles your certainties, and forever changes how you see the world.

Resources required:

www.youtube.com

Optional texts can be found on Amazon

Submission details:

No work needs to be submitted.