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LIBR 285-15: Annotated Bibliography of Reference Works

Algra, K.A. *Polyhistor: Studies in the History and Historiography of Ancient Philosophy : Presented to Jaap Mansfeld on His Sixtieth Birthday (Philosophia Antiqua)*. Edited by Pieter Willem Van Der Horst and David Runia. Boston: Brill Academic Publishers, 1996.

This work concentrates on the Presocratics, Hellenistic Philosophy, the sources of our knowledge of ancient philosophy (esp. doxography) and the history of scholarship. The 22 contributors include M. Baltes, J. Barnes, J. Brunschwig, W.M. Calder III, J. Dillon, P.L. Donini, J. Glucker, A.A. Long, L.M. de Rijk, D. Sedley, P. Schrijvers, and M. Vegetti. The volume concludes with a complete bibliography of Jaap Mansfeld's scholarly work thus far.

Algra, K. A., Barnes, J., Mansfeld, J. and Schofield, M. *The Cambridge History of Hellenistic Philosophy*. Cambridge: CUP, 2000.

A full account of the philosophy of the Greek and Roman worlds from the last days of Aristotle (c. 320 BC) until 100 BC. The History is organized by subject, rather than chronologically or by philosophical school, with sections on logic, epistemology, physics and metaphysics, ethics and politics. It has been written by specialists but is intended to be a source of reference for any student of ancient philosophy, for students of classical antiquity and for students of the philosophy of later periods. Greek and Latin are used sparingly and always translated in the main text.

Gibbon, Edward. *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Edited by J.B. Bury. Rockville, MD: Wildside Press, 2004.

Gibbon's work was the first general history that covered the decline and fall of the Roman Empire (starting at the reign of the "Age of the Antonines"), and in many regards is still a keystone work to this day; all subsequent investigations into the field compare against Gibbon. Although now hundreds of years old, Gibbon's history is remarkably exhaustive and well cited and introduces the reader to all the major forces and sources applicable to the study. While many contemporary historians have held issue with Gibbon's final interpretations and conclusions, as a general history work *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* is nearly unparalleled, meticulously surveying the ancient sources and the contemporary scholarship of his time. It also must be mentioned that Gibbon's work is a pleasure to read!

Inwood, Brad. *The Cambridge Companion to the Stoics (Cambridge Companions to Philosophy)*. Cambridge: CUP, 2003.

This volume offers an exploration through the ideas of the Stoics in three ways: through the historical trajectory of the school itself and its influence; the recovery of the history of Stoic thought; and finally, the ongoing confrontation with Stoicism.

Long, A.A. *Epictetus: A Stoic and Socratic Guide to Life*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.

One of the definitive textbooks and general reference works on the philosophy of Stoicism. Most useful for purposes of this research, Long provides an examination of

Stoicism as a philosophy of life and not merely an academic philosophy, which is key to understanding the Roman Stoics during the decline of the empire. Long's volume is a key reference work for tracing the history of Stoicism and Stoic thought well into the modern times and contains an exhaustive bibliography and linguistic guide.

Remes, Paulina. *Neoplatonism (Ancient Philosophies)*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008.

Platonism and neoplatonism are married to the development of Stoicism: both philosophies greatly influenced each other and the students and statesmen that studied them. Accordingly Remes' work is an appropriate reference. This book is exceptional in that it synergies new findings in the field to create a cutting edge textbook and general overview of Neoplatonism. It performs exceptionally as a general introduction and as a reference source. Using an accessible, thematic approach, the author explores the ideas of leading Neoplatonists such as Porphyry, Iamblichus, Proclus, Simplicius and Damascius, as well as less well-known thinkers. She situates their ideas alongside classical Platonism, Stoicism, and the neo-Pythagoreans as well as other intellectual movements of the time, including Gnosticism, Judaism, and Christianity.

Sedley, David. *The Cambridge Companion to Greek and Roman Philosophy*. Cambridge: CUP, 2003.

*The Cambridge Companion to Greek and Roman Philosophy* is a wide-ranging introduction to the study of philosophy in the ancient world. A team of leading specialists surveys the developments of the period and evaluates a comprehensive series of major

thinkers, ranging from Pythagoras to Epicurus. There are also separate chapters on how philosophy in the ancient world interacted with religion, literature and science, and a final chapter traces the seminal influence of Greek and Roman philosophy down to the seventeenth century.

Sellars, John. *Stoicism (Ancient Philosophies)*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006.

A general guide to the ancient philosophy of Stoicism, Sellars provides an amazing portrait of the intellectual culture of the period. *Stoicism* is notable for its outstanding rigor, comprehensive coverage and scope, as well as its ability to provide answers to specific reference queries regarding the philosophy. A special attention is paid to the historical development of Stoicism. *Stoicism* is considered to be one of the keystone general guides on the philosophy for which it is named.

Strange, Steven and Jack Zupko. *Stoicism: traditions and transformations*. Cambridge: CUP, 2004.

An essential reader, including essays by various experts in the field of Stoic studies including Lawrence Becker, this volume focuses on the topic of influence of the Stoicism on historical action. A special emphasis is placed upon the impact that Stoicism has had on historical periods and contemporaneous commentators. *Stoicism: traditions and transformations* also provides articles which provide close coverage of Stoic philosophical concepts ranging from passion, to duty and to public service. This reader offers a critical understanding of the relationship Stoicism played within history, a major

area of research often neglected until recent years; the volume serves as a primer in the general study of this domain.

Zalta, Edward N. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Cambridge.

While the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* is a general reference work in philosophy, it provides extremely useful, thorough entries on various topics relating to the historiography of ancient history, philosophy and Stoicism. Most applicable to the researcher are the articles tracing the history of ideas in ancient philosophy. It is a treasure in its online form, capable of answering reference queries about the general domain of ancient philosophy in the same way Sellar's book does for the specific study of Stoicism.

Note: Small portions of the some of the annotation on some of the entries above may have been adapted or truncated from official promotional materials after author review and consideration.