

NICOMACHEAN ETHICS: Book 1

Summary & Analysis

Book 1, Chapter 1. According to [Aristotle](#), every craft, line of inquiry, action, and decision seeks some [end](#), or “[good](#),” but these goods differ. For example, health is the end of medicine, a boat the end of boatbuilding, and victory the end of generalship.

Aristotle begins with a discussion of four types of goal-directed pursuits. The first two pursuits are aimed at producing something beyond themselves; the latter two are pursued for their own sakes, but Aristotle will go on to argue that even these are ultimately directed toward a higher “good.”

Some of these pursuits are “subordinate” to others—for example, bridle-making is subordinate to horsemanship, and various actions in warfare are subordinate to generalship. So, [Aristotle](#) claims, the [ends](#) of these “ruling sciences” (like horsemanship or generalship) are more “choiceworthy” than their subordinate ends, because the lower ends are pursued for the sake of the higher.

With these examples, Aristotle shows how particular, concrete tasks are pursued for the sake of some higher end, preparing his audience for the idea that there is a highest end toward which all lesser aims strive.

Book 1, Chapter 2. [Aristotle](#) notes that “things achievable by action have some [end](#) that we wish for because of itself.” This end will be the best [good](#). The knowledge of this “best good” is important for determining the best way of life, so all people should try to grasp what that good is and which is its proper science.

In this passage, Aristotle explains the aim of his inquiry in *Nicomachean Ethics* as a whole: to figure out the best way of life. While most of our actions are done for the sake of some higher end, there is an ultimate end beyond which we wish nothing more. When we know what this is, we’ll be better equipped to pursue the best way of life.

Aristotle Nicomachean Ethics Book 1 Chapter Summary

Aristoteles



Aristotle Nicomachean Ethics Book 1 Chapter Summary:

Notes on the Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle John Alexander Stewart, 1892 *The Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle*, tr. with notes by J.E.C. Welldon Aristoteles, 1892 *Classical Horizons* George E. McCarthy, 2012-02-01 2003 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title This work relocates the origins of nineteenth century social theory in classical Greece and focuses on three figures Karl Marx Max Weber and mile Durkheim all of whom wrote dissertations on the culture and structure of ancient society Greek philosophy art and politics inspired their ideas stirred their imaginations and defined their intellectual horizons McCarthy rediscovers the forgotten dreams and classical horizons of these European social theorists and uncovers the close connections between sociology and philosophy offering new insights into the methods theories and approaches of modern social science **An Introduction to Aristotle's Ethics, Books I-IV.-Book X. Ch. VI.-IX. in an appendix. With a continuous analysis and notes ... By the Rev. Edward Moore** Aristotle, 1871 **Catalogue of Printed Books** British Museum, 1884 **Ways of Being** Charlotte Witt, 2018-05-31 Charlotte Witt continues her highly regarded exploration of Aristotle s metaphysics in a book devoted to the ontological distinction between potentiality and actuality She focuses on Metaphysics book ix which provides the most sustained discussion of this distinction Witt rejects the conventional reading of this key text that Aristotle differentiated between the two concepts solely to further the investigation of substance Instead in an original interpretation of his work she argues that his development of the distinction between being x potentially and being x actually allowed Aristotle to develop an intrinsically hierarchical and normative vision of reality For Witt Aristotle s views about being shed light on his puzzling use of gender language in his descriptions of reality This language has become an important issue for feminist scholars who have noted that in Aristotle s metaphysics of substance form is sometimes associated with the male and matter with the female Witt s interpretation that Aristotelian reality is intrinsically hierarchical and normative but not intrinsically gendered offers a new important understanding of a controversial aspect of Aristotle s metaphysics *An Analysis of Aristotle's Politics* Katherine Berrisford, Riley Quinn, 2017-07-05 Politics was one of the first books to investigate the concept of political philosophy and the starting point of political science studies as we know them Written in the fourth century B C E it explores how best to create political communities that support serve and improve citizens *Adaptive Dynamics* J. E. R. Staddon, 2001 In this book J E R Staddon proposes an explanation of behavior that lies between cognitive psychology which seeks to explain it in terms of mentalistic constructs and cognitive neuroscience which tries to explain it in terms of the brain Staddon suggests a new way to understand the laws and causes of learning based on the invention comparison testing and modification or rejection of parsimonious real time models for behavior The models are neither physiological nor cognitive they are behavioristic Staddon shows how simple dynamic models can explain a surprising variety of animal and human behavior ranging from simple orientation reflexes and habituation through feeding regulation operant conditioning spatial navigation stimulus

generalization and interval timing Themes, Issues and Problems in African Philosophy Isaac E. Ukpokolo, 2017-01-31 This volume provides the key to a deepened discourse on philosophy in Africa Available literature and academic practice in African philosophy since the 1960s have largely featured discourses in the areas of origin general meaning and nature of the discipline with little attention given to specialized areas By contrast this book examines a noticeable shifting focus from such general concerns to more specific subject matter in such areas as epistemology moral philosophy metaphysics aesthetics and social and political philosophy in the light of the African experience The volume includes specific discourses from expert contributors on the nature history and scope of African ethics and metaphysics while also discussing particular themes in African epistemology philosophy of education existentialism and political philosophy Researchers seeking for new perspective on African philosophy will find this work thought provoking instructive and informative **Law and Psychiatry** Michael S. Moore, 1984-03-30 This book is about the competing images of man offered us by the disciplines of law and psychiatry Michael Moore describes the legal view of persons as rational and autonomous and defends it from the challenges presented by three psychiatric ideas that badness is illness that the unconscious rules our mental life and that a person is a community of selves more than a unified single self Using the tools of modern philosophy he attempts to show that the moral metaphysical foundations of our law are not eroded by these challenges of psychiatry The book thus seeks through philosophy to go beneath the centuries old debates between lawyers and psychiatrists and to reveal their hidden agreement about the nature of man Some attention is paid to practical legal and psychiatric issues of contemporary concern such as the proper definition of mental illness for psychiatric purposes and the proper definition of legal insanity for legal purposes This book was first announced for publication in hard covers in the Press s January to July seasonal list

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