Kant’s lectures on anthropology, which formed the basis of his *Anthropology from a Pragmatic Point of View* (1798), contain many observations on human nature, culture and psychology, and illuminate his distinctive approach to the human sciences. The essays in the present volume, written by an international team of leading Kant scholars, offer the first comprehensive scholarly assessment of these lectures, their philosophical importance, their evolution and their relation to Kant’s critical philosophy. They explore a wide range of topics, including Kant’s account of cognition, the senses, self-knowledge, freedom, passion, desire, morality, culture, education and cosmopolitanism. The volume will enrich current debates within Kantian scholarship as well as beyond, and will be of great interest to upper-level students and scholars of Kant, the history of anthropology, the philosophy of psychology and the social sciences.

Alix Cohen is Chancellor’s Fellow at the University of Edinburgh. She is the author of *Kant and the Human Sciences: Biology, Anthropology and History* (2009), and has published articles in journals including *Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Kantian Review, History of Philosophy Quarterly* and *British Journal for the History of Philosophy.*
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Lectures on Anthropology

A Critical Guide

EDITED BY

ALIX COHEN

University of Edinburgh
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Preface

The idea for this volume grew out of conversations I had with Thomas Sturm, and in particular one that took place at the 11th International Kant Congress in Pisa in May 2010. We agreed that the publication of the Lectures on Anthropology in the German Academy edition of Kant’s Gesammelte Schriften (1997) and the (then forthcoming and now published) translation of these Lectures in the series of the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant provided an opportune moment to take stock of their historical importance and philosophical relevance. Although unfortunately our original project did not come to fruition, it prompted the work on this volume, for which I am grateful.

This volume would not have been possible without the help of many people. First, I would like to thank Hilary Gaskin for helping me bring the project to completion – her constant support throughout the process is very much appreciated. I also want to express my gratitude to all the contributors for making my life much easier by providing fantastic contributions. Particular thanks go to Werner Stark, whose piece on the history of the Lectures was a welcome late addition to an already rich volume, to Joshua Mendelsohn, who went beyond the call of duty and spent his holidays translating this piece so that it could be included in time for publication, and to Jonathan Head for compiling a very thorough index.

I am also very grateful to the editors of the translations of Kant’s Lectures on Anthropology, Robert Clewis, Robert Louden, G. Felicitas Munzel and Allen Wood, as well as Cambridge University Press, for sharing the early proofs of their work with the contributors to this volume. My thanks are also due to two anonymous external readers whose positive comments and feedback were of great assistance whilst assembling the contributions. Finally I would like to acknowledge a big debt to others at the Press,
and in particular Rosemary Crawley and Gillian Dadd, for their help and understanding when inevitable delays emerged.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank Cain Todd for his ongoing faith in me despite evidence to the contrary, and Noa for her special brand of joyful support.
Translators and abbreviations

Kant's works are cited in the body of the text according to the volume and page number in *Immanuel Kant's Schriften*, Ausgabe der königlichen preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 1902–), abbreviated in the list below as “Ak.” Unless noted otherwise in their essays, authors use translations from the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant, series editors Paul Guyer and Allen W. Wood (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992–).

The following abbreviations are used to refer to specific works by Kant.

**A**

*Anthropologie in pragmatischer Hinsicht* (1798), Ak 7

**AF**

*Vorlesungen über Anthropologie Friedländer* (1775–6), Ak 25.1

*Friedländer’s Notes on Kant’s Anthropology Lectures*

**AN**

*Allgemeine Naturgeschichte und Theorie des Himmels* (1755), Ak 2

*Universal Natural History and Theory of the Heavens*

**Bem**

*Bemerkungen zu den “Beobachtungen über das Gefühl des Schönen und Erhabenen”* (1764–5), Ak 20

*Remarks in the “Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and Sublime”*

**Beo**

*Beobachtungen über das Gefühl des Schönen und Erhabenen* (1764), Ak 2

*Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and Sublime*

**C**

*Briefe*, Ak 10–13

*Correspondence*

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<td>The Only Possible Argument in Support of a Demonstration of the Existence of God</td>
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<td>PND</td>
<td>Principiorum primorum cognitionis metaphysicae nova dilucidatio (1755), Ak 1</td>
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A New Elucidation of the First Principles of Metaphysical Cognition

PPH
Praktische Philosophie Herder (1762–4), Ak 27.1
J. G. Herder’s Notes on Kant’s Practical Philosophy Lectures

Prol
Prolegomena zu einer jeden künftigen Metaphysik
Prolegomena to any Future Metaphysics (1783), Ak 04

R
Religion innerhalb der Grenzen der bloßen Vernunft
Religion within the Boundaries of Mere Reason

Ref
References here are to the number of the Reflection and then to the volume and the page of the Akademie edition

RezMoscati
Recension von Moscatis Schrift: Von dem körperlichen wesentlichen Unterschiede zwischen der Structur der Thiere und Menschen (1771), Ak 2
Review of Moscati’s work Of the Corporeal Essential Differences between the Structure of Animals and Humans

RH
Recensionen von J. G. Herders Ideen zur Philosophie der Geschichte der Menschheit (1785), Ak 8
Review of J. G. Herder’s Ideas for the Philosophy of the History of Humanity

Ri
Remarks on the “Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and Sublime”

SF
Der Streit der Fakultäten (1798), Ak 7
The Conflict of the Faculties

SOS
Aus Soemmerring über das Organ der Seele (1796), Ak 12
From Soemmerring’s On the Organ of the Soul

TP
Über den Gemeinspruch: Das mag in der Theorie richtig sein, taugt aber nicht für die Praxis (1793), Ak 8
On the Common Saying: That May Be True in Theory, But It Is of No Use in Practice
List of translations and abbreviations

UD	Untersuchung über die Deutlichkeit der Grundsätze der natürlichen Theologie und der Moral (1764), Ak 2

Inquiry Concerning the Distinctness of the Principles of Natural Theology and Morality

ÜGTP	Über den Gebrauch teleologischer Principien in der Philosophie (1788), Ak 8

On the Use of Teleological Principles in Philosophy

VA-name	Vorlesungen über Anthropologie, followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 25

Lectures on Anthropology

VL-name	Vorlesungen über Logik, followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 24

Lectures on Logic

VM-name	Vorlesungen über Metaphysik, followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 28, 29

Lectures on Metaphysics

VMo-name	Vorlesungen über Moralphilosophie, followed by the name of the note taker, Ak 27, 29

Lectures on Moral Philosophy

VNR-Feyerabend	Naturrecht Feyerabend (1784), Ak 27

Kant's Lectures on Natural Right

VP	Über Pädagogik (1803), Ak 9

Lectures on Pedagogy

V-PG	Vorlesungen über physische Geographie, Ak 26

Lectures on Physical Geography

VvRM	Von den verschiedenen Racen der Menschen (1775), Ak 2

Of the Different Races of Human Beings

WA	Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung? (1784), Ak 8

An Answer to the Question: What Is Enlightenment?