

## HEGEL'S PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE

Hegel's Philosophy of Nature constitutes the second part of his mature philosophical system presented in the *Encyclopaedia of the Philosophical Sciences*, and covers an exceptionally broad spectrum of themes and issues, as Hegel considers the content and structure of how humanity approaches nature and how nature is understood by humanity. The essays in this volume bring together various perspectives on Hegel's Philosophy of Nature, emphasizing its functional role within the *Encyclopaedia* and its importance for understanding the complexity of Hegel's philosophical project. Together they illuminate the core ideas which form Hegel's philosophical framework in the realm of nature.

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# HEGEL'S PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE

*A Critical Guide*

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*To John W. Burbidge, colleague and friend  
In Memoriam*

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## Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations used throughout the volume for core references, along with their English translations. References to pages in English translations are provided only when the translation lacks pagination from the critical edition of the relevant thinker's works. If translations have been modified, this is explicitly stated either in a text or in a note, and unless otherwise noted, all emphases are in the original.

Multivolume editions are cited by volume: page numbers; when necessary, line numbers are also included (volume: page.line numbers). Works divided into numbered sections are cited by section (§) number.

### Hegel's Writings

Hegel's works *Encyclopaedia of the Philosophical Sciences* and *Philosophy of Right* are cited using section (§) numbers. For these works, "R" indicates Remarks (*Anmerkungen*) and "A" indicates Additions (*Zusätze*). When citing Hegel's published Remarks, the section number is followed by the suffix "R," as in "§345R." When citing student notes from Hegel's lectures, the section number is followed by the suffix "A," as in "§345A." When both a main section and a remark or a lecture note are cited, an ampersand is inserted, as follows: "§345 & R" or "§345 & A."

- Diff.* "Differenz des Fichte'schen und Schelling'schen Systems der Philosophie." *Kritisches Journal der Philosophie* 1(1) (1801): 111–84; rpt. *GW* 4:3–92. (English translation: *The Difference Between Fichte's and Schelling's System of Philosophy*, ed. and trans. H. S. Harris and W. Cerf [Albany, State University of New York Press, 1977].)
- Diss.* "Philosophical Dissertation on the Orbits of the Planets and the *Habilitation Theses*," trans. Pierre Adler. In *Miscellaneous Writings of G. W. F. Hegel*, ed. Jon

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- Stewart. (Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2000.)
- Enc.* *Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften* (1st ed.: 1817, 2nd ed.: 1827, 3d ed.: 1830), 3 vols., *GW* 13, 19, 20; cited by §, as needed with the suffix “R” or “Z” (for explanation see start of section).
- Enc.* 1 *Hegel's Encyclopedia Logic*, trans. T. Geraets, W. Suchting, and H. S. Harris. (Cambridge, MA: Hackett, 1991.)
- Enc.* 1BD *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences in Basic Outline – Part 1: Science of Logic*, trans. and ed. K. Brinkmann and D. O. Dahlstrom. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.)
- Enc.* 2 *Hegel's Philosophy of Nature*, trans. A. V. Miller. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1970; 2nd ed. 2014.)
- Enc.* 2P *Hegel's Philosophy of Nature*, 3 vols., ed. and trans. M. J. Petry. (London: George Allen & Unwin; New York: Humanities Press, 1970.)
- Enc.* 3 *Hegel's Philosophy of Mind*, trans. W. Wallace and A. V. Miller. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1976.)
- Enc.* 3I *Hegel's Philosophy of Mind*, trans. W. Wallace and A. V. Miller, with revisions and commentary by M. J. Inwood. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2007.)
- Enc.* 3P *Hegel's Philosophy of Subjective Spirit (Enc. 3, §§377–482)*, 3 vols., trans. and ed. M. J. Petry. (Dordrecht: D. Reidel, 1978.)
- ENZ* *Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften (1830)*. (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1991.)
- GVNat* Vorlesung über Naturphilosophie Berlin 1823/24. Nachschrift von K. G. J. v. Griesheim, hrsg. v. G. Marmasse. (Frankfurt a.M. et al.: Peter Lang, 2000.)
- GW* *Gesammelte Werke*, 21 vols. Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, with the Hegel-Kommission der Rheinisch-Westfälischen Akademie der Wissenschaften and the Hegel-Archiv der Ruhr-Universität Bochum. (Hamburg: Meiner, 1968–2017.)
- HEnc.* *Encyclopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften im Grundrisse*. (Heidelberg: August Osswald's Universitaetsbuchhandlung, 1817.)
- IPH* *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*, trans. Leo Rauch. (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1988.)

- JS III* *Jena Systementwürfe III (1805–1806). GW 8.*
- LFA* *Hegel's Aesthetics: Lectures on Fine Art.* 2 vols., trans. and ed. T. M. Knox. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1975.)
- LHP-B* *Lectures on the History of Philosophy: The Lectures of 1825–1826.* 3 vols., trans. and ed. R. F. Brown. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.)
- LPhWH-N* *Lectures on the Philosophy of World History : Introduction, Reason in History,* ed. Johannes Hoffmeister, trans. H. B. Nisbet (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1975.)
- MM* *Werke in 20 Bänden,* ed. Eva Moldenhauer and Karl Markus Michel, 20 vols. (Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1969–71)
- PhG* *System der Wissenschaft. Erster Theil, die Phänomenologie des Geistes (1807). GW 9.*
- PR* *Elements of the Philosophy of Right,* ed. A. Wood, trans. H. B. Nisbet. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.) (Translation of *Naturrecht und Staatswissenschaft im Grundrisse: Grundlinien der Philosophie des Rechts (1821). GW 14.*
- PR<sub>H</sub>* *Hegel's Philosophy of Right,* 2nd ed., ed. T. M. Knox, trans. S. Houlgate. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 2008.)
- PS* *The Phenomenology of Spirit,* trans. T. Pinkard. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018.) Cited by paragraph numbers.
- SL* *The Science of Logic,* trans. George di Giovanni. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.)
- UVNat* *Vorlesung über Naturphilosophie Berlin 1821/22. Nachschrift von Boris von Uexküll.* Hgg. v. Gilles Marmasse und Thomas Posch. (Frankfurt a.M. et al: Lang, 2002.)
- V* *Vorlesungen: Ausgewählte Nachschriften und Manuskripte.* 16 vols. (Hamburg: Meiner, 1983–.)
- VGPh-L* *Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Geschichte,* with an Introduction by Theodor Litt. (Stuttgart: Reclam, 1961.)
- VGPhI–4* *Vorlesungen über die Geschichte der Philosophie.* In *Vorlesungen,* vols. 6–9, ed. P. Garniron and W. Jaeschke. (Hamburg: Meiner, 1986–96.)
- VHGesch* *Die Vernunft in der Geschichte,* ed. J. Hoffmeister. Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1955.

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- VNat1* *Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Natur (1819–1820)*.  
*Vorlesungen* vol. 16, ed. M. Bondeli and H. N. Seelmann.  
 (Hamburg: Meiner, 2002.)
- VNat2* *Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Natur (1825–1826)*.  
*Vorlesungen* vol. 17, ed. K. Bal, G. Marmasse, Th. Posch,  
 and K. Vieweg. (Hamburg: Meiner, 2007.)
- VNat-GW* *Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Natur. GW 24*.
- VNat1-GW* Nachschriften zu den Kollegien der Jahre 1819/20, 1821/22  
 und 1823/24. Hg. v. Wolfgang Bonsiepen. 2012. *GW 24,1*
- VNat2-GW* Nachschriften zu den Kollegien der Jahre 1825/26 und  
 1828. Unter Mitarbeit von Wolfgang Bonsiepen hg.  
 v. Niklas Hebing. 2014. *GW 24, 2*.
- VNat3-GW* Sekundäre Überlieferung. Hg. v. Niklas Hebing. 2016.  
*GW 24,3*.
- WL* *Wissenschaft der Logik. Erster Band: Die objective Logik*  
*(1812)*. *GW 11*.  
*Wissenschaft der Logik. Zweiter Band: Die subjective Logik*  
*oder Lehre vom Begriff (1816)*. *GW 12*.  
*Wissenschaft der Logik. Erster Teil: Die objective Logik.*  
*Erster Band. Die Lehre vom Seyn (1832)*. *GW 21*.

## Kant's Writings

- Ak.* *Kants Gesammelte Schriften*, 29 vols. Königlich Preußische  
 (now Deutsche) Akademie der Wissenschaften. (Berlin:  
 G. Reimer, now De Gruyter, 1902–)
- CJ* *Critique of the Power of Judgment*, ed. P. Guyer, trans.  
 P. Guyer and E. Matthews. (Cambridge: Cambridge  
 University Press, 2000.) (English translation of *Kritik der*  
*Urteilkraft* [1790], *Ak 5*.) Cited by *Ak* paragraph numbers.
- CNM* “Attempt to Introduce the Concept of Negative Magnitudes  
 into Philosophy (1763).” In *Theoretical Philosophy, 1755–1770*,  
 trans. and ed. David Walford in collaboration with Ralf  
 Meerbote. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.)
- Corr.* *Briefwechsel*. In *Ak. 10 (1747–88)/Ak. 11 (1789–94)*. (English  
 translation: *Correspondence*, trans. and ed. A. Zweig.  
 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.)
- CPR* *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. and ed. P. Guyer and A. Wood.  
 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.) (English  
 translation of *Kritik der reinen Vernunft*, 1st ed., 1781 [A], *Ak*  
 4; 2nd ed., 1787 [B], *Ak 3*.) Cited by A/B pagination.

- MFNS* *Metaphysische Anfangsgründe der Naturwissenschaft* (1786), *Ak* 4. (English translation: *Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science*, trans., ed. M. Friedman. [Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004].)
- MMr* *Metaphysik Mrongovius*. In *Ak*. 29, 747–940. (English translation: *Metaphysic Mrongovius* [1782–83]. In I. Kant, *Lectures on Metaphysics*, trans. and ed. Karl Ameriks and Steve Naragon, 109–286. [Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997].)
- Ref.* *Reflexionen zur Physik und Chemie*. In *Ak*. 14, *Kants PC* *Handschriftlicher Nachlaß*, Bd. I. *Mathematik-Physik und Chemie Physische Geographie*, 63–537.
- THA* *Allgemeiner Naturgeschichte und Theorie des Himmels oder Versuch von der Verfassung und dem mechanischen Ursprunge des ganzen Welgebäude, nach Newtonischen Grundsätzen abgehandelt*. In *Ak*. 1: 215–368. (English translation: *Universal Natural History and Theory of the Heavens or Essay on the Constitution and the Mechanical Origin of the Whole Universe according to Newtonian principles* [1755]. In I. Kant, *Natural Science*, ed. Eric Watkins, trans. Lewis White Beck et al., 182–308. [Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012].)

**Schelling's Writings**

- HKA* *Werke: Historisch-Kritische Ausgabe*. Projekt Schelling – Edition und Archiv der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften. (Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt: Frommann-Holzboog, 1976–.)
- HMPPhA* *On the History of Modern Philosophy*, trans. Andrew Bowie. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994.)
- PSPPh* *Presentation of My System of Philosophy* (1801). In *The Philosophical Rupture between Fichte and Schelling: Selected Texts and Correspondence (1800–1802)*, trans. and ed. Michael G. Vater and David W. Wood, 141–205. (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2012. SSW I/4.)
- SW* *Schellings Werke*, ed. M. Schröter. (Munich: Beck, 1958.)
- Tim* *Timaeus* (1794): *Zur Bedeutung der Timaeus-Handschrift für Schellings Naturphilosophie*, ed. Hartmut Buchner and Hermann Krings. (Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt: Frommann-Holzboog, 1994.)