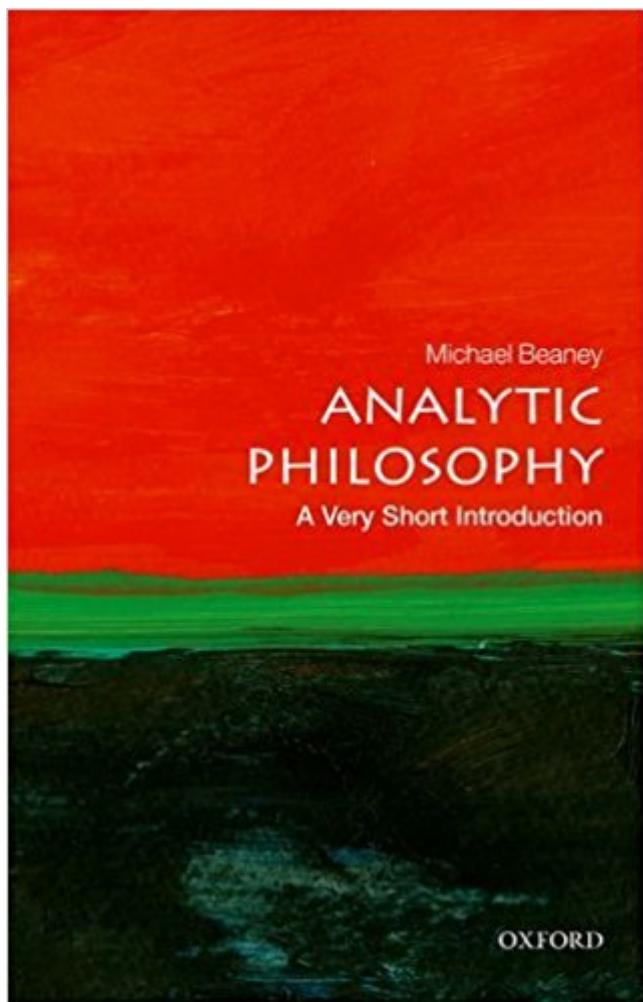


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Analytic Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)



Synopsis

Originating in the pioneering work of Gottlob Frege, Bertrand Russell, G. E. Moore, and Ludwig Wittgenstein in the four decades around the turn of the twentieth century, analytic philosophy established itself in various forms in the 1930s. After the Second World War, it developed further in North America, in the rest of Europe, and is now growing in influence as the dominant philosophical tradition right across the world, from Latin America to East Asia. In this *Very Short Introduction* Michael Beaney introduces some of the key ideas of the founders of analytic philosophy by exploring certain fundamental philosophical questions and showing how those ideas can be used in offering answers. Considering the work of Susan Stebbing, he also explores the application of analytic philosophy to critical thinking, and emphasizes the conceptual creativity that lies at the heart of fruitful analysis. Throughout, Beaney illustrates why clarity of thinking, precision of expression, and rigour of argumentation are rightly seen as virtues of analytic philosophy.

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"What a great 'thought-thinking trip.' Beaney gives us a concise, excellent introduction to analytic philosophy, one that takes on the vexed question of saying what analytic philosophy is, and delivers

a fine, historically tethered, answer." - Professor Cheryl Misak, University of Toronto

Michael Beaney is Professor of History of Analytic Philosophy at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and Professor of Philosophy at King's College London. Educated at Oxford, where he did his doctorate, he has also taught at Birkbeck College London and the Universities of Sheffield, Leeds, Manchester, and York, as well as at the Open University. He has held Alexander von Humboldt Fellowships at the Universities of Erlangen-Nürnberg and Jena in Germany, and has been Visiting Professor at Peking University and Beijing Normal University in China. He is the author of Frege: Making Sense (1996) and Imagination and Creativity (2005); and editor of The Frege Reader (1997), Gottlob Frege: Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers (with Erich Reck; 4 vols., 2005), The Analytic Turn (2007), and The Oxford Handbook of the History of Analytic Philosophy (2013). He is also editor of the British Journal for the History of Philosophy.

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