

# Most Important Works of the Enlightenment

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## THE 50 MOST IMPORTANT BOOKS OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY:

On the Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection –Charles Darwin

The Descent of Man –Charles Darwin

On the Fourfold Root of the Principle of Sufficient Reason –Arthur Schopenhauer

On the Basis of Morality –Arthur Schopenhauer

On the Freedom of the Will –Arthur Schopenhauer

The World As Will & Representation (volumes I & II) –Arthur Schopenhauer

Democracy In America (volumes I & II) –Alexis de Tocqueville

Das Capital (volumes I, II, III) –Karl Marx

Theories of Surplus Value (volumes I, II, III)–Karl Marx

Either / Or (volumes I & II) –Soren Kierkegaard

Philosophical Fragments –Soren Kierkegaard

The Sickness Unto Death –Soren Kierkegaard

The Present Age –Soren Kierkegaard

Concluding Unscientific Postscript –Soren Kierkegaard

Fear & Trembling –Soren Kierkegaard

The Birth of Tragedy –F. Nietzsche

Human, All Too Human –F. Nietzsche

Daybreak –F. Nietzsche

The Gay Science –F. Nietzsche

Beyond Good & Evil –F. Nietzsche

The Genealogy of Morals –F. Nietzsche

Ecce Homo –F. Nietzsche  
The Will To Power –F. Nietzsche  
Twilight of the Idols –F. Nietzsche  
The Antichrist –F. Nietzsche  
The Essence Of Christianity –Ludwig Feuerbach  
Principles of Philosophy of the Future –Ludwig Feuerbach  
Concept Notation –Gottlob Frege  
On Sense & Reference –Gottlob Frege  
Concept & Object –Gottlob Frege  
On Liberty –John Stuart Mill  
Utilitarianism –John Stuart Mill  
Considerations On Representative Government –John Stuart Mill  
The Subjection of Women –John Stuart Mill  
A System of Logic –John Stuart Mill  
The Collected Papers –Charles Sanders Peirce  
Pragmatism –William James  
The Phenomenology of Spirit –G.W.F. Hegel  
The Philosophy of Right –G.W.F. Hegel  
Mutual Aid –Peter Kropotkin  
What Is Property? –Pierre-Joseph Proudhon  
Confessions of a Revolutionary –Pierre-Joseph Proudhon  
Statism & Anarchism –Mikhail Bakunin  
Essays –Ralph Waldo Emerson  
Walden –Henry David Thoreau  
Theory of the Leisure Class –Thorstein Veblen  
General View of Positivism –August Comte

Course in the Positivist Philosophy –August Comte

Social Statics –Herbert Spencer

First Principles –Herbert Spencer

8 Notable Mentions:

Principles of Political Economy –John Stewart Mill

On War –Carl Von Clausowitz

Celestial Mechanics –Pierre-Simon LaPlace

The System of the World –Pierre-Simon LaPlace

Disquisitiones Arithmeticae –J.C.F. Gauss

Suicide –Emile Durkheim

Value, Price, & Profit –Karl Marx

Economic & Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 –Karl Marx

**THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT BOOKS OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY:**

On the Limits of State Action –Wilhelm von Humboldt

An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding –David Hume

An Enquiry Concerning The Principles of Morals –David Hume

A Treatise On Human Nature –David Hume

The Critique of Pure Reason –Immanuel Kant

The Critique of Practical Reason –Immanuel Kant

The Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals –Immanuel Kant

The Metaphysics of Morals –Immanuel Kant

Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics –Immanuel Kant

Common Sense –Thomas Paine

The Rights of Man –Thomas Paine

The Age of Reason –Thomas Paine

On The Spirit of Laws –Montesquieu

Discourse On the Origin of Inequality –Jean-Jacque Rousseau

The Social Contract –Jean-Jacque Rousseau

The History of the Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire –Edward Gibbon

Enquiry Concerning Political Justice –William Godwin

The Theory of Moral Sentiments –Adam Smith

An Enquiry Into the Nature & Causes of the Wealth of Nations –Adam Smith

A Vindication of the Rights of Women –Mary Elizabeth Wollstonecraft

#### 12 Notable Mentions:

Philosophical Dictionary –Voltaire

A Treatise On Toleration –Voltaire

Emile / On Education –Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Confessions –Jean-Jacques Rousseau

The Natural History of Religion –David Hume

Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion –David Hume

Religion Within The Bounds of Reason –Immanuel Kant

The Critique of Judgment –Immanuel Kant

The American Crisis Papers –Thomas Paine

Pensees Philosophiques –Denis Diderot

The Federalist Papers –Hamilton, Madison

A Vindication of the Rights of Man –Mary Elizabeth Wollstonecraft

#### THE 24 MOST IMPORTANT BOOKS OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> CENTURY:

(Two) Treatises On Government –John Locke

Essay Concerning Human Understanding –John Locke

Ethics –Baruch Spinoza

Tractatus Theologico-Politicus –Baruch Spinoza

Discourse On Metaphysics –Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz

Monadology –Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz

New Essays Concerning Human Understanding –Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz

Theodicy –Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz

Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy –Isaac Newton

Optics –Isaac Newton

Pensees –Blaise Pascal

Discourse On The Method –Rene Descartes

Geometry –Rene Descartes

Meditations on First Philosophy –Rene Descartes

Essays –Francis Bacon

Novum Organum –Francis Bacon

Leviathan –Thomas Hobbes

Dialogue Concerning Two Chief World Systems –Galileo Galilei

Dialogues Concerning Two New Sciences –Galileo Galilei

The Harmony of The World –Johannes Kepler

Petition of Right –Edward Coke

Essays –Michel de Montaigne

On the Revolution of the Celestial Orbs –Nicolaus Copernicus