

James P Sterba (editor), *Ethics; The Big Questions* (Oxford: Blackwells 1998)

Bernard Williams, *Morality*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1976)

J.L. Mackie, *Ethics Inventing Right and Wrong* (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books 1977)

James Rachels (editor), *Ethical Theory* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 1998)

W.D. Hudson, *Modern Moral Philosophy* (London: Macmillan 1983, 2nd edition)

Robert Audi, 'Moral Knowledge and Ethical Pluralism', in John Greco and Ernest Sosa (editors) *The Blackwell Guide to Epistemology* (Oxford Blackwells: 1999)

Mary Warnock *Ethics Since 1900* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 1978, 3rd edition)

Peter Singer (editor), *A Companion to Ethics* (Oxford: Blackwells 1991)

The books by Williams and Mackie are often used as introductory texts; they seek to introduce the subject not so much by describing what people have thought and said, as by engaging with the business of philosophical ethics directly. The book edited by Singer contains a series of essays on major theories and themes in ethical thought including the themes of the chapters of this module as well as material on religious traditions and on practical ethics. It is more descriptive of the work of other philosophers and their theories than Williams and slightly more so than Mackie. The book by Hudson is also more descriptive. The book edited by Rachels is more demanding, but also potentially more rewarding, and the ambitious should seek it out. It contains articles and excerpts from books, with a substantial introduction. The fine article by Audi discusses issues of knowledge in ethics. The other book by Bernard Williams mentioned in footnote 3 above is a very significant discussion of the business of moral philosophy by a leading contemporary moral philosopher.