

≡ CONTENTS

	Introduction	ix
1	Basic Metaphysics: Reality and Truth	1
	The Enlightenment Vision: Reality and Its Intelligibility, 1	
	Introducing Philosophy, 7	
	The Default Positions, 9	
	Reality and Truth: The Default Position, 12	
	Four Challenges to Realism, 20	
	Skepticism, Knowledge, and Reality, 27	
	Is There Any Justification for External Realism? 31	
	Beyond Atheism, 33	
2	How We Fit into the Universe:	
	The Mind as a Biological Phenomenon	39
	Three Features of Consciousness, 39	
	A Clash of Default Positions: The Mind-Body Problem, 45	
	The Irreducibility of Consciousness, 55	
	The Danger of Epiphenomenalism, 57	
	The Function of Consciousness, 62	
	Consciousness, Intentionality, and Causation, 64	
3	The Essence of the Mind:	
	Consciousness and Its Structure	67
	Three Mistakes About Consciousness, 69	
	Structural Features of Consciousness, 73	

	The Field of Consciousness and the Binding Problem, 80	
	Consciousness and Value, 83	
4	How the Mind Works: Intentionality	85
	Consciousness and Intentionality, 86	
	Naturalizing Intentionality: Another Clash of Default Positions, 89	
	Intentionality Naturalized as a Biological Phenomenon, 95	
	The Structure of Intentional States, 99	
	Intentional Causation, 104	
	The Background of Intentionality, 107	
5	The Structure of the Social Universe: How the Mind Creates an Objective Social Reality	111
	Social and Institutional Reality, 112	
	Observer-Dependency and the Building Blocks of Social Reality, 116	
	A Simple Model of the Construction of Institutional Reality, 124	
	The Example of Money, 126	
	How Institutional Reality Can Be So Powerful, 128	
	Solutions to the Problem and the Puzzles, 131	
6	How Language Works:	
	Speech as a Kind of Human Action	135
	Speech Acts: Illocutionary Acts and Perlocutionary Acts, 136	
	The Meanings of "Meaning," 139	
	Meaning and Communication, 144	
	Various Types of Speech Acts, 146	
	Constitutive Rules and Symbolism, 152	
	Notes	163
	Suggestions for Further Reading	167
	Subject Index	171
	Name Index	175