An Introduction to Philosophy (Payne)

The goal of this text is to present philosophy to newcomers as a living discipline with historical roots. While a few early chapters are historically organized, my goal in the historical chapters is to trace a developmental progression of thought that introduces basic philosophical methods and frames issues that remain relevant today. Later chapters are topically organized. These include philosophy of science and philosophy of mind, areas where philosophy has shown dramatic recent progress.

Front Matter

1: What Philosophy Is
2: How Philosophy is Done

3: Ancient Philosophy

4: The Rationalists

5: The Empiricists
6: Philosophy of Science

7: Philosophy of Mind

8: Love and Happiness

9: Meta-Ethics
10: Right Action

11: Social Justice

Back Matter

*Thumbnail: The Death of Socrates (1787) by Jacques-Louis David (Public Domain).*