

# The Cosmological Argument

1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause
2. The universe (all space, *time*, and matter) began to exist (The Big Bang)
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

This cause is *necessarily* spaceless, timeless, immaterial, and powerful; *plausibly* personal; and, known, *conceptually*, as God.



Picture from NASA.  
Argument adapted from Dr. William Lane Craig's *On Guard* and Dr. Norman Geisler and Dr. Frank Turek's *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*

# The Cosmological Argument

**Paul Copan, William Lane Craig**



## **The Cosmological Argument:**

*Cosmological Arguments* Michael Almeida, 2018-08-23 The Element discusses the structure content and evaluation of cosmological arguments The introductory section investigates features essential to cosmological arguments Traditionally cosmological arguments are distinguished by their appeal to change causation contingency or objective becoming in the world But none of these is in fact essential to the formulation of cosmological arguments Sections 1 3 present a critical discussion of traditional Thomistic Kalam and Leibnizian cosmological arguments noting various advantages and disadvantages of these approaches Section 4 offers an entirely new approach to the cosmological argument the approach of theistic modal realism The proper explananda of cosmological arguments on this approach is not change causation contingency or objective becoming in the world The proper explananda is the totality of metaphysical reality all actualia and all possibilia The result is the most compelling and least objectionable version of the cosmological argument

**The Cosmological Argument from Plato to Leibniz** William L. Craig, 2001-10-13 [Does God Exist?](#) İsmail Latif Hacınebioğlu, 2008

**The Kalam Cosmological Argument, Volume 1** Paul Copan, William Lane Craig, 2017-11-16 Did the universe begin to exist If so did it have a cause Or could it have come into existence uncaused from nothing These questions are taken up by the medieval though recently revived kalam cosmological argument which has arguably been the most discussed philosophical argument for God's existence in recent decades The kalam's line of reasoning maintains that the series of past events cannot be infinite but rather is finite Since the universe could not have come into being uncaused there must be a transcendent cause of the universe's beginning a conclusion supportive of theism This anthology on the philosophical arguments for the finitude of the past asks Is an infinite series of past events metaphysically possible Should actual infinities be restricted to theoretical mathematics or can an actual infinite exist in the concrete world These essays by kalam proponents and detractors engage in lively debate about the nature of infinity and its conundrums about frequently used kalam argument paradoxes of Tristram Shandy the Grim Reaper and Hilbert's Hotel and about the infinity of the future

**The Kalam Cosmological Argument** William L. Craig, 2000-05-24 Does God exist Of the many ongoing debates to answer this question William Craig examines one of the most controversial proofs for the existence of God the Kalam cosmological argument Dr Craig provides a broad assessment of the argument in lieu of recent developments in philosophy mathematics science and theology

*The Cosmological Argument* William L. Rowe, 1998

**The Cosmological Argument** Bruce R. Reichenbach, 1972

[The Cosmological Argument](#), 2003

*The Intelligible Universe* Hugo A. Meynell, 1982-03-25

**God and Ultimate Origins** Andrew Ter Ern Loke, 2017-09-20 This book develops a novel argument which combines the Kalam with the Thomistic Cosmological Argument It approaches an ongoing dispute concerning whether there is a First Cause of time from a radically new point of view namely by demonstrating that there is such a First Cause without requiring the controversial arguments against concrete infinities and against traversing an actual infinite although the book presents

original defenses of these arguments as well. This book also develops a novel philosophical argument for the Causal Principle, namely that everything that begins to exist has a cause, and offers a detailed discussion on whether a First Cause of time can be avoided by a causal loop. It also addresses epistemological issues related to the Cosmological Argument which have been relatively neglected by recent publications and demonstrates, contra Hawking et al, the continual relevance and significance of philosophy for answering ultimate questions.

**Cosmological Arguments** Michael Almeida, 2018-07-31. The book discusses the structure, content, and evaluation of cosmological arguments. The introductory chapter investigates features essential to cosmological arguments. Traditionally, cosmological arguments are distinguished by their appeal to change, causation, contingency, or objective becoming in the world. But none of these is in fact essential to the formulation of cosmological arguments. Chapters I-III present a critical discussion of traditional Thomistic, Kalam, and Leibnizian cosmological arguments, noting various advantages and disadvantages of these approaches. Chapter IV offers an entirely new approach to the cosmological argument: the approach of theistic modal realism. The proper explananda of cosmological arguments on this approach is not change, causation, contingency, or objective becoming in the world. The proper explananda is the totality of metaphysical reality: all actualia and all possibilities. The result is the most compelling and least objectionable version of the cosmological argument.

Philosophy of the Muslim World Joseph Kenny, 2003. The Cosmological Argument for the Existence of God: Traditional Arguments, Criticisms, and New Directions Timothy Gordon Dmin, 2019-03-14. This book defines the cosmological argument and a brief overview of the history of the argument is examined. The three traditional forms of the argument are reviewed with the Thomistic, Kalam, and Leibniz-Clarke versions as representative of those forms. In the main body of this work, ten criticisms of the argument are briefly surveyed, followed by an overview of nine contemporary versions of the argument with the purpose of reworking and reframing it. Eight of those new versions are theistic, and one is an atheistic form of the argument. The criticisms and new forms of the argument are not exhaustive but rather are a representative cross-section of the work that has been done on the cosmological argument. The conclusion reviews some recent cosmological and astrophysical discoveries of the last century that have strengthened the argument. Finally, the importance of the cosmological argument and future challenges for theists to improve and strengthen the argument are made.

**Analytic Philosophy of Religion** James Franklin Harris, 2013-03-14. When Gene Long, editor of Kluwer's Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy of Religion Series, first invited me to write the volume on Analytic Philosophy of Religion, I accepted with great enthusiasm. My only explanation for that enthusiasm now is that I was younger and more naive at the time. Soon after starting work on the volume, my enthusiasm was dampened by the daunting magnitude of the task. I began as a sprinter and quickly settled into the pace of a long-distance runner. Although I considered myself well-read in the subject, I soon discovered that I had a great deal of research to do to be confident that I had considered all of the major contributions to the various discussions, issues, and problems found within analytic

philosophy books and articles I realized that I had rushed into a territory already well trodden by the angels I am greatly impressed by the sophistication and subtlety of philosophical argument that characterize the different debates in contemporary analytic philosophy of religion This volume covers a vast amount of material I have endeavored to provide the fairest possible reading of different authors and in cases where I include my own critical evaluations and develop my own positions I have endeavored to provide the strongest possible interpretations of the positions I criticize *The Cosmological Argument from Plato to Leibniz* William Craig,1986 Mastering the National Admissions Test for Law Mark Shepherd,2013-07-18 This fully revised and updated second edition provides an indispensable guide to all those preparing to sit the National Admissions Test for Law LNAT Mastering the LNAT provides comprehensive guidance on both the multiple choice section and essay section of the test as well as analysis of previous test results details of the procedure for sitting the test and how the results are calculated and used The book also includes five practice tests for students to work through along with complete sets of answers and explanations and a range of sample essays and essay plans Presented in an accessible and easy to understand format Shepherd offers a practical hands on insight into what universities are looking for from candidates It includes an introduction to the test and the part it plays in the overall application process guidance on preparing for the LNAT and an explanation of the ways that you can improve your approach to the test a guide to approaching MCQs including an analysis of different types of possible questions and techniques for verifying answers a guide to approaching essay questions five sample test papers answers and explanations for all MCQs sample essays and essay plans Mastering the LNAT is essential reading for those students wanting to give themselves the best possible chance of securing a place at the University of their Choice **The Problem of God** Erin M. Cline,2026 This book based on the Georgetown University course The Problem of God which the author has been teaching for the last fifteen years explores the challenges of religious belief and spirituality through the lens of both historical and contemporary sources from a diversity of religious traditions around the globe It explores fundamental issues concerning belief in God including the existence and nature of God different forms of theism and alternatives to theism warranted belief and the challenges posed by the problem of evil modern science atheism and religious pluralism Provided by publisher *THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS* Edward D. Andrews,2024-10-04 The Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics is an essential resource for anyone seeking to defend the Christian faith with clarity and confidence This comprehensive volume offers in depth explanations of key topics and arguments within the field of apologetics making it an invaluable tool for pastors teachers students and laypeople alike Organized alphabetically for easy reference each entry addresses significant theological issues common objections and the core truths of Christianity Whether you re responding to questions about the existence of God the reliability of Scripture or contemporary challenges such as atheism and moral relativism this encyclopedia provides biblically grounded logically sound and practically applicable answers With over 220 books authored Edward D Andrews draws from his extensive experience

and study to offer readers well researched and scripturally supported content The Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics not only equips you to answer critics but also deepens your understanding of the Christian worldview and strengthens your faith In a world where questions about faith and truth are more pressing than ever this encyclopedia is a trusted guide to help you stand firm in the truth and proclaim the gospel boldly *On the Nature and Existence of God* Richard M. Gale, 2016-08-26 First published in 1991 Richard M Gale s classic book is a response to and critique of new contemporary arguments for the existence of God from analytical philosophers Considering concepts including time free will personhood actuality and the objectivity of experience Gale evaluates the new versions of cosmological ontological pragmatic and religious experience arguments that emerged in the late twentieth century Presented in a fresh twenty first century series livery and including a specially commissioned preface written by Paul K Moser illuminating its enduring importance and relevance to philosophical enquiry this influential work has been revived for a new generation of readers *History of Modern Philosophy from Nicolas of Cusa to the Present Time* Richard Falckenberg, 1897

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