Home. Philosophy, Politics and Economics Reading List. The list is divided into three parts covering Philosophy, Politics and Economics. Philosophy. Note that Philosophy books should be read slowly. It is a good idea to pause after every ten or twenty pages, and to make notes on the course of the argument (together with any queries or criticisms that have occurred to you). Logic. The first-year economics course at Balliol does not assume any prior knowledge of the subject, but does move fairly fast and is quite technical in its character. The principal books used in the first year are J.M. Perloff, Microeconomics (which requires some knowledge of calculus), R. Frank and E. Cartwright Microeconomics and Behaviour, and C.I. Jones Macroeconomics. 13. The Philosophical Foundations of Mainstream Normative Economics Daniel M. Hausman and Michael S. McPherson. 14. Why Is Cost-Benefit Analysis So Controversial? Robert H. Frank. My hope is that this book will be useful both as a research resource and as a teaching tool. It provides an introduction to a wide range of methodological issues and to a wide range of positions which have been taken with respect to these issues. Unlike a textbook, this anthology also provides some historical perspective. The issues with which the philosophy of science has been concerned that are most relevant to economics can be divided into five groups: 1. Goals What are the goals of science and of scientific theorizing? Finally, the philosophy of economics is concerned with the concrete social assumptions that are made by economists. Philosophers have given attention to the institutions and structures through which economic activity and change take place. What is a market? Are there alternative institutions through which modern economic activity can proceed? What are some of the institutional variants that exist within the general framework of a market economy? What are some of the roles that the state can play within economic development so as to promote efficiency, equity, human well-being, productivity,