

Orientation is a process that you can observe when looking at yourself and others; over time, routines and structures are formed in it through which you find hold and guidance. Because the process is bound to a standpoint, it always refers to other standpoints all of which are difficult to grasp, so that you can only orient yourself to them. This requires communication; if everyone had the same reason, there would be no need for communication. Everyday interaction and communication show that people are not equal, but different in their orientations and inferior and superior to each other in different areas of human orientation. All other philosophies presuppose the basic conditions of orientation, and we can show how they make certain orientation decisions from certain standpoints at certain times. The *Courageous Beginnings* in this augmented edition are intended to provide an orientation in philosophy through a clear presentation of the insights that brought philosophy closer to a philosophy of orientation. They are intended to show what justifies understanding philosophy as orientation today. With its ongoing self-criticism in its history without final solutions, which cannot exist in life, and with the respective alternatives between which decisions are made, philosophy today is well equipped to deal with the nihilism and relativism that became the nightmares of philosophers in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Orientation is a positive concept: it makes us open to deal with the world as it is with all its temporality and complexity and without any embellishments and idealizations, and it makes us confident that people will be able to master the serious crises that lie ahead.



*Werner Stegmaier was the founding director of the Institute of Philosophy at the University of Greifswald, Germany. He intensified and deepened the Nietzsche research and was the editor-in-chief of the Nietzsche-Studien for nearly two decades. He has published on Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Kant, Hegel, Dilthey, Nietzsche, Whitehead, Heidegger, Wittgenstein, Levinas, Derrida, and Luhmann. He is the author of the philosophy of orientation. [www.stegmaier-orientierung.de](http://www.stegmaier-orientierung.de)*

Orientation in Philosophy: Courageous Beginnings

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*Augmented Edition*

