

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910459723303321
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Titolo	Philosophical progress : and other philosophical studies // Nicholas Rescher
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boston : , : De Gruyter, , [2014] ©2014
ISBN	1-61451-993-5 1-61451-806-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (134 p.)
Classificazione	CC 1100
Disciplina	101
Soggetti	Philosophy, Modern - History Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Preface -- Table of Contents -- 1. Philosophical Progress -- 2. Issues of Ultimate Explanation -- 3. Evidentiating Free Will -- 4. God and the Grounding of Morality -- 5. Contextuality and the Relation to Science and Religion -- 6. Value Exclusion and Neutrality in Science -- 7. Generalization and the Future -- 8. Cognitive Eschatology in C. S. Peirce The Evolutionary Pathway to Scientific Knowledge -- 9. Reference Theory -- Name Index
Sommario/riassunto	The nine original essays collected in this volume explore the themes of philosophical progress, ultimate explanation, the metaphysics of free will, and the relation of sciences and religion. These essays exemplify Nicholas Rescher's characteristic mode of combining historical perspectives with analytical elucidation on philosophically contested issues and utilize this methodology to address some of the salient problems of the field.