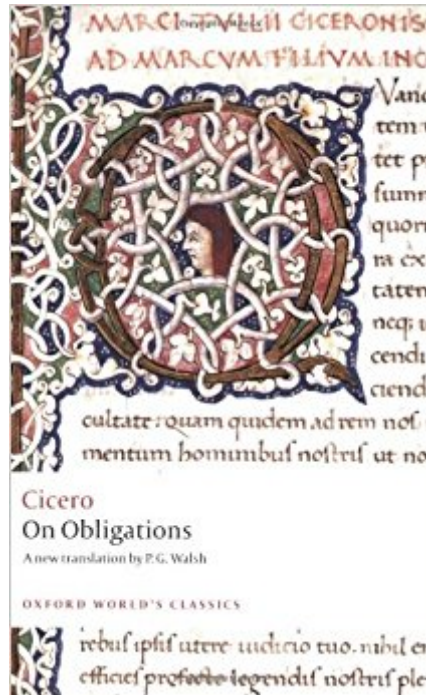




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On Obligations: De Officiis (Oxford World's Classics)



Synopsis

Cicero wrote *On Obligations* (*De Officiis*) in late 44 BC after the assassination of Julius Caesar to provide principles of behavior for aspiring politicians. It has subsequently played a seminal role in the formation of ethical values in western Christendom. Adopted by the fourth-century Christian humanists, it became transmuted into the moral code of the high Middle Ages. Thereafter, in the Renaissance from the time of Petrarch, and in the Age of Enlightenment that followed, it was given central prominence in discussion of the government of states. Today, when corruption and conflict in political life are the focus of so much public attention, *On Obligations* is still the foremost guide to good conduct. This new edition is based on a more systematic examination of the vast manuscript tradition than has previously been attempted, and shows with new clarity the major contribution to the improvement of the text made by scribes and readers of the later manuscripts, both in the Middle Ages and in the Renaissance.

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Series: Oxford World's Classics

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; Reissue edition (July 15, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199540713

ISBN-13: 978-0199540716

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.5 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #24,535 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Ancient & Classical](#) #37 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Ancient](#) #42 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Medieval](#)

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In this book Cicero lays out what is honorable, useful and then shows how they do not conflict. The writing is clear and concise with plenty of examples, further, he makes a great case for his arguments

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