Reading Charles Taylor
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Although I was initially granted a fellowship to study the relationship between freedom and

individualism, I instead chose to spend my summer investigating the work of the Canadian philosopher

Charles Taylor. Professor Taylor is one of the most famous living philosophers, and although he primarily

taught political philosophy during his career, he also has interests and publications in the areas of moral

philosophy, philosophy of language, philosophy of action, hermeneutics, sociology, theology, and

intellectual history. More than any other living philosopher, he has tried to break down the stifling

boundaries of modern academic (and analytic) philosophy so as to bring into modern philosophy resources from other disciplines and cultures. For this, and for other reasons, I find him to be one of the best thinkers for actually understanding the world we live in, and the reasons we have arrived here.