Nietzsche is a key figure in the history of modernism who in many ways laid the philosophical foundations for the movement to take place. Although Nietzsche lived the entirety of his sane life in obscurity and suffering, this only increased the infatuation the world found in him at the turn of the century. It is not exaggerating to say that Nietzsche was a visionary, in his writings he reinterpreted every philosophy, every historical figure and event, every movement that came before him. This re-conceptualization of the past gave him fresh eyes with which to see daring new possibilities for the future, that seduced entire generations of his readers and continues to do so. He was read by early Zionists as well as Nazi racial theorists, by Thomas Mann and Salvador Dali, his influence stretched into the field of psychoanalysis as well as existentialism, the political theories of anarchists and and oligarchs. His name is mentioned alongside Plato and Kant as one of the greatest philosophers of all time. Revived anew for every generation, this book attempts to explore Nietzsche’s broad effect on the modernists, in all of its varied manifestations.

Understanding Nietzsche, Understanding Modernism is the proposed fourth book in the series Understanding Philosophy, Understanding Modernism, published by Bloomsbury. The book will be organized according to the same schematic as the rest of the series. It is divided into three sections, the first section reviews specific works from Nietzsche’s corpus, discussing their historical and context and philosophical importance. This first section relies heavily on close readings and investigations within Nietzsche’s own philosophy. This allows for a certain amount of broad ‘conceptualization’ of Nietzsche to occur before delving into his relationship with the modernist thinkers. Contributors aim to offer new interpretations that both illuminate Nietzsche’s work and progress the scholarship that has already been established.

The second section opens up a broader discussion of the question of Nietzsche’s relationship with the modernist movement. This is a more multifarious and diverse section, which is why the first ‘conceptualization section is necessary for framing. This section is a more traditional collection of essays on Nietzsche with a focus on his impact on the modernist literary and cultural tradition. Possible topics for this section include Nietzsche’s influence on Psychoanalysis, film, political or social movements, literature, visual arts, or music (e.g. Strauss, Mahler, etc.).

The third section is a series of short essays, each dedicated to explaining a specific term in Nietzsche’s philosophy.

We are looking for authors who wish to contribute an essay for either section one or section two. Please submit a short (250- to 350-word) abstract to 0Brian.Pines0@gmail.com by September 20th 2016. Questions concerning the project may be sent via email to this same address.