

M.A. Reading List

Political Theory

Familiarize yourself with **all** the items in each of the *Canon* and *Contemporary and Democratic Theory* categories. The works listed in the commentary section all offer important, recent interpretations of the history of political thought. While none of these works is required, we suggest you use them for general reference as well as to familiarize yourself with different interpretations of those theorists of greatest interest to you.

Read the entire text unless selections are specified.

Canon

- Aristotle. *Politics* (Books I i-viii; xii-xiii; II i-v; III [entire]; IV [entire]; V i-ix; VI, i-vii).
Hobbes. *Leviathan*, I 1-6; 10-16; II 17-21, 26, 28-31; Review and Conclusion.
Locke. *Second Treatise of Government*.
Machiavelli. *Discourses on Livy* (Book I, Introduction, Chs. 1, 2, 4, 9, 16, 58; Book II, Introduction, Chs. 1, 2, 29; Book III, Ch. 1, 9, 43, 49) and *The Prince*.
Marx. *The German Ideology*, *The Communist Manifesto*.
Mill. *Considerations on Representative Government* (Chs. 1-3, 5, 7-12, 16-17); *On Liberty*.
Plato. *Apology*, *Crito*, *Republic* (Stephanus number 327a to 376c; 412b to 434b; 441c to 444e; 471c to 521c).
Rousseau. *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*, *On the Social Contract*.

Contemporary and Democratic Theory

- Arendt, Hanna. *The Human Condition* (Prologue; Sections I, II and V).
Berlin, Isaiah. "Two Concepts of Liberty," in *Four Essays on Liberty*.
Dahl, Robert. *Preface to Democratic Theory*.
Downs, Anthony. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*.
Foucault, Michel. "Truth and Power" in *Power/Knowledge*.
Habermas, Jürgen. "Discourse Ethics," in *Moral Consciousness and Communicative Action*.
Oakeshott, Michael. "Rationalism and Politics," "The Masses in Representative Democracy," and "The Political Economy of Freedom," in *Rationalism and Politics and Other Essays*.
Rawls, John. *A Theory of Justice* (Ch. I, sections 1-4; Ch. II, sections 11-17; Ch. III (entire); Ch. IV, sections 33-35; 39-40; Ch. VII, sections 66-67; Ch. VIII, section 77; Ch. IX, sections 78-79, 82, 85-86).
Schumpeter, Joseph. *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy* (Part IV, "Socialism and Democracy").
Selected articles on the philosophy of the social sciences:
1. Hempel, Carl. "The Function of General Laws in History," *The Journal of Philosophy* 39:2 (1942), 35-48.
2. Popper, Karl. "Science: Conjectures and Refutations" in E. D. Klemke (ed), *Introductory Readings in the Philosophy of Science*.
3. Taylor, Charles. "Interpretation and the Sciences of Man" in *Philosophical Papers*, Vol. II.
Weber, Max, "Politics as a Vocation".

Commentary

A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy (Blackwell).

McIlwain, C.H. *The Growth of Political Thought in the West: From the Greeks to the End of the Middle Ages*.

The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory.

Rawls, John. *Lectures on the History of Moral Philosophy*.

Sabine, George. *A History of Political Theory*.

Skinner, Quentin. *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought*, 2 vols.

Strauss, Leo and Joseph Cropsey. *The History of Political Philosophy*.

Wolin, Sheldon. *Politics and Vision*, expanded edition (Princeton, 2004).