Department of Political Science  
Yale University

Political Theory Exam List 2015

Part I

Starred primary readings/texts are required for the exam. The secondary readings suggested for each author are intended as guides to assist you in gaining knowledge of the primary sources and some of the interpretive and critical debates in contemporary scholarship in political philosophy. They are suggestions only, and may be supplemented or substituted for by other secondary texts. While no secondary reading is required as such, it will be difficult to demonstrate mastery of your selected authors without some sense of how other scholars have read and responded to their works in the past.

Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War
  W.R. Conner, Thucydides
  Steven Forde, The Ambition to Rule
  David Grene, Man In His Pride
  Adam Parry, Logos and Ergon in Thucydides
  Hunter Rawlings III, The Structure of Thucydides’ History
  Jacqueline De Romilly, Thucydides and Athenian Imperialism

*Plato, Apology, Crito, Republic
  Julia Annas, Introduction to Plato’s Republic
  H.G. Gadamer, Dialogue and Dialectic
  Charles Griswold, Jr. ed., Platonic Writings, Platonic Readings
  James C. Klagge and Nicholas D. Smith, Methods of Interpreting Plato
  Malcolm Schofield, Plato: Political Philosophy
  Leo Strauss, “Plato,” The City and Man

*Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics; Politics
  Eugene Garver, Confronting Aristotle’s Ethics: Ancient and Modern Morality
  Jill Frank, A Democracy of Distinction: Aristotle and the Work of Politics
  Keyt and Miller, eds., A Companion to Aristotle’s Politics
Carnes Lord, *Education and Culture in the Political Thought of Aristotle*
Amelie O. Rorty, ed., *Essays on Aristotle’s Ethics*
Stephen Salkever, *Finding the Mean*
Aristide Tessitore, *Reading Aristotle’s Ethics*
Bernard Yack, *The Problems of a Political Animal*

Cicero, *On the Commonwealth [De Republica], On the Laws [De Legibus], On Duties [De Officiis]*
Joy Connolly, *The State of Speech: Rhetoric and Political Thought in Ancient Rome*
Anthony Everitt, *Cicero*
C. E. W. Steel, *Cicero, Rhetoric, and Empire*
Neal Wood, *Cicero’s Social and Political Thought*

Augustine, *The Political Writings* (Gateway), pp. 1-207
Herbert Deane, *The Political and Social Ideas of Saint Augustine*
Reinhold Niebuhr, “Augustine’s Political Realism” in *Christian Realism and Political Problems*

Aquinas, excerpts from the *Summa* in either *Selected Political Writings*, ed. D’Entreves or *The Political Ideas*, ed. Bigongiari
G. K. Chesterton, *Aquinas*
A. P. D’Entreves, *Natural Law*
John Finnis, *Aquinas: Moral, Political and Legal Theory*

*Machiavelli, The Prince, The Discourses*
Bock, Skinner, and Viroli, eds., *Machiavelli and Republicanism*
Ruth Grant, *Hypocrisy and Integrity*
Mark Hullung, *Citizen Machiavelli*
Victoria Kahn, *Machiavelli and the Discourse of Literature*
Harvey Mansfield, *Machiavelli’s Virtue*
Hannah Pitkin, *Fortune is a Woman*
Quentin Skinner, *Machiavelli*
Leo Strauss, *Thoughts on Machiavelli*
Maurizio Viroli, *Machiavelli*

*Hobbes, Leviathan*
C. B. Macpherson, *Political Theory of Possessive Individualism*, Chap. 2
Michael Oakeshott, “Moral Life in the Writings of Thomas Hobbes,” *Rationalism in Politics*
Quentin Skinner, *Hobbes and Republican Liberty*
Richard Tuck, *Hobbes and Philosophy and Government*
*Spinoza, Theologico-Political Treatise; Political Treatise (Shirley translation)
   Etienne Balibar, Spinoza and Politics
   Jonathan Israel, Radical Enlightenment
   W. Montag and T. Stolze (eds) The New Spinoza
   Steven B. Smith, Spinoza, Liberalism and the Question of Jewish Identity
   Leo Strauss, Spinoza’s Critique of Religion
   Yirmiyahu Yovel, Spinoza and Other Heretics

*Locke, Second Treatise of Government, Letter Concerning Toleration
   Richard Ashcraft, Locke’s Two Treatises of Government
   John Dunn, Political Thought of John Locke, Chap. 1,5,8,9,10,13-17,19
   Peter Laslett, “Introduction” to Two Treatises of Government (Cambridge)
   C.B. Macpherson, Possessive Individualism, Chap. 5
   Leo Strauss, Natural Right and History, Chap 5B

Montesquieu, Spirit of the Laws
   Louis Althusser, Montesquieu: Politics and History in Politics and History
   D. Carrithers, M. Mosher, and P. Rahe, eds., Montesquieu’s Science of Politics
   Nannerl Keohane, Philosophy and the State in France
   Thomas Pangle, Montesquieu’s Philosophy of Liberalism
   Judith Shklar, Montesquieu

*Rousseau, Discourse on the Arts and Sciences, Discourse on the Origin of Inequality, Social Contract
   Roger Masters, The Political Philosophy of Rousseau
   Arthur Melzer, The Natural Goodness of Man
   Judith Shklar, Men and Citizens
   Jean Starobinski, Transparency and Obstruction
   Robert Wokler, Rousseau
   Hamilton, Madison, and Jay, Federalists Papers
   David Epstein, The Political Theory of the Federalist
   John Diggins, The Lost Soul of American Politics, Chap.2, 3
   Richard Hofstadter, “Founding Fathers: An Age of Reason,” The American Political Tradition

   Joseph Cropsey, Polity and Economy
   Charles Griswold, Adam Smith and the Virtues of Enlightenment
   Ryan Hanley, Adam Smith and the Character of Virtue
   Knud Haakonssen, The Science of a Legislator: the Natural Jurisprudence of David Hume and Adam Smith
   Albert O. Hirschman, The Passions and the Interests, pp 100-115
I. Hont and M. Ignatieff, eds. *Wealth and Virtue*
Andrew Skinner and Thomas Wilson, eds. *Essays on Adam Smith*
Donald Winch, *Adam Smith’s Politics*

*Kant, Political Writings*, ed. H. Reiss
William A. Galston, *Kant and the Problem of History*
Onora O’Neill, *Constructions of Reason*
Patrick Riley, *Kant’s Political Theory*
Howard Williams, ed. *Essays on Kant’s Political Philosophy*
Yirmiahu Yovel, *Kant and the Philosophy of History*

*Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France*
David Bromwich, ed. *Burke on Empire, Liberty, and Reform*
Pocock, “Introduction” to *Reflections* (Hackett)
Peter Stanlis, *Edmund Burke and the Natural Law*, Chap. 1, 3
Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History*, Chap. 6B
James Boyd White, *When Words Lose Their Meaning*
Articles: Michael Mosher, David Bromwich

*Hegel, Philosophy of Right*
Shlomo Avineri, *Hegel’s Theory of the Modern State*
Alexandre Kojève, *Introduction to the Reading of Hegel*
Raymond Plant, *Hegel*
Steven B. Smith, *Hegel’s Critique of Liberalism*
Charles Taylor, *Hegel and Modern Society*

Jean-Claude Lamberti, *Tocqueville and the Two Democracies*
Francoise Melonio, *Tocqueville and the French*
Pierre Manent, *Tocqueville and the Nature of Democracy*
Harvard Mansfield and Delba Winthrop, “Editors’ Introduction,” *Democracy in America* (University of Chicago)
Larry Siedentop, “Two Liberal Traditions,” in Alan Ryan, *The Idea Of Freedom*
Cheryl Welch, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Tocqueville*

*Mill, On Liberty, Utilitarianism, Considerations on Representative Government, The Subjection of Women*
Fred Berger, *Happiness, Justice, Freedom*
Joel Feinberg, *Social Philosophy*
Joseph Hamburger, *Intellectuals in Politics: John Stuart Mill and The Philosophic Radicals*
Gertrude Himmelfarb, *On Liberty and Liberalism*
Alan Ryan, *J.S. Mill*

Shlomo Avineri, *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*
G.A. Cohen, *Karl Marx’s Theory of History*
Leszek Kolakowski, *Main Currents of Marxism*, Vol. 1

Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals: Beyond Good and Evil*
Peter Berkowitz, *Nietzsche: The Ethics of an Immoralist*
Bruce Detwiler, *Nietzsche and the Politics of Aristocratic Radicalism*
Martin Heidegger, “Who is Nietzsche’s Zarathustra?” in *Nietzsche*
Alexander Nehamas, *Nietzsche: Life as Literature*
Richard Schacht ed., *Nietzsche, Genealogy, Morality*
Robert Solomon ed. *Reading Nietzsche*

**Appendix A: Interpretation and Methods**
J.D. Moon and S. White, eds., *What is Political Theory?*
Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History*, 1-80
Leo Strauss, *Persecution and the Art of Writing*, 22-37
Part II

Students are required to read all starred texts as well as the remaining texts in any three subsections. Local authors and secondary sources are in listed in the appendix (B) and should be consulted for reference purposes.

Democracy and Representation

Kenneth Arrow, *Social Choice and Individual Values* (Yale University Press, 1951). The technical parts, particularly chapter 5 of this work, are difficult to follow and not required. A clear exposition of the logic of Arrow’s theorem can be found in ch. 14 of Luce and Raiffa, *Games and Decisions*. A nontechnical account by Arrow, also recommended, “Public and private values,” is in Sidney Hook, ed., *Human Values and Economic Policy*, pp. 3-21.


Gerry Mackie, *Democracy Defended* (Cambridge, 2003) chs. 1-6, 9-10, 14-15


Hanna Pitkin, *The Concept of Representation* (University of California, 1972)


A. Fung, and Erik Olin Wright, *Deepening Democracy: Institutional Innovations in*
Empowered Participatory Governance. (Verso, 2003)


Justice and Equality

*John Rawls, A Theory of Justice (Harvard, 1971), ch. 1, secs. 1-4, 8; ch. 2, secs. 11-17; ch. 3, secs. 20-27, 29-30; ch. 4, sec. 40; ch. 5, secs. 41-43; ch. 8, sec. 79.


Michael Sandel, Justice and the Limits of Liberalism


Charles Taylor, Hegel and Modern Society (Cambridge University Press, 1979)

Charles Beitz, Political Theory and International Relations (Princeton, 1999)

Nancy Fraser. Scales of Justice. Reimagining Political Space in a Globalizing World (New York, 2009), chs. 1, 2 and 3.


Mancur Olson, The Logic of Collective Action (Harvard University Press, 1965)


Seyla Benhabib, ed. *Democracy and Difference. Contesting the Boundaries of the Political*, chs. by Habermas, Wolin, Young and Mouffe (Princeton, 1999)

*Robert E. Goodin, Utilitarianism as a Public Philosophy (Cambridge, 1995), ch. 1-4, 8-11.

Robert E. Goodin, Utilitarianism as a Public Philosophy, (Cambridge, 1995), ch. 5-7, 12-18.


**Power and Legitimacy**


*Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (Vintage, 1979)


*Clarissa Hayward, Defacing Power (Cambridge University Press, 2000)


Jurgen Habermas, Legitimation Crisis (Beacon Press, 1973)

*Jürgen Habermas, The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere (MIT Press, 1989).

John Rawls, Political Liberalism, (Columbia University Press), lectures 1, 3, 4, 6.


Hannah Arendt, The Origins of Totalitarianism (1979), New Prefaces to Parts 1 and 2; Part 2, ch.9 “The Decline of the Nation-State”; Part Three.chs. 12 and 13.


Albert Hirschman, Exit, Voice and Loyalty (Harvard University Press, 1970)

Carl Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political* (1919) [MIT Press, 1996]


**Freedom**


Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History* (pp. 1-80)
Identity/Diversity and Citizenship

*Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities* (Verso, 1983)


Judith Butler, *Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (Routledge, 1999)

Charles Taylor, *A Secular Age* (Harvard University Press, 2009), Part I and Conclusion


Sarah Song, *Justice, Gender, and the Politics of Multiculturalism* (Cambridge, 2007)


*Jürgen Habermas, The Inclusion of the Other (MIT Press, 1998), chs. 4 and 9.

Seyla Benhabib, ed. Democracy and Difference. Contesting the Boundaries of the Political (Princeton, 1999), essays by Habermas, Wolin, Young and Mouffe
Sankar Muthu, Enlightenment and Empire (Princeton, 2003)

Jennifer Pitts, Turn to Empire, The Rise of Imperial Liberalism in Britain and France (Princeton University Press, 2005)

Uday Metha, Liberalism and Empire. A Study in Nineteenth-Century British Liberal Thought (The University of Chicago Press, 199)

Appendix B: Local Authors and Secondary Sources

Bruce Ackerman, We, The People (Harvard, 1992), chs. 1, 7, 9-11.

Bruce Ackerman, Social Justice in the Liberal State (Yale, 1980), chs. 1, 2, 4-6, 8-11.

Bruce Ackerman and James Fishkin, Deliberation Day (Yale University Press, 2004)

Seyla Benhabib, Critique, Norm and Utopia. (Columbia University Press, 1986), Part II.

Seyla Benhabib, Situating the Self (Polity Press, 1992), Part I.


Seyla Benhabib, The Rights of Others (Cambridge 2004), Introduction, chs, 1, 2, 3 and 5.


G.A. Cohen, "Incentives, inequality & community," The Tanner Lectures on Human Values (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press)


Ian Shapiro and Hacker-Cordon, *Democracy’s Value* (Cambridge, 1999), chs. 2-4, 9-10.

Ian Shapiro and Hacker-Cordon, *Democracy’s Edges* (Cambridge, 1999), chs. 2, 7-12, 15.

Ian Shapiro, *Democratic Justice* (Yale University Press, 1999).