Political Classics A Guide To The Essential Texts From Plato To Rousseau


These essays are designed for students of political philosophy who are approaching the great texts of the past for the first time. Intended to help students find their way into the texts and get the most from them, while encouraging further exploration, the essays offer selective interpretation of setting, form, and content in clear, straightforward language. Texts discussed are Plato's Republic, Aristotle's Politics, Augustine's City of God, Machiavelli's Prince and Discourses, Hobbes's Leviathan, Locke's Second Treatise of Government, and Rousseau's Social Contract.

The Political Classics—Murray Greensmith Forryth 1992

Political Thought—Laurie M. Bagby 2002

This book presents a unique mixture of history and philosophy in a format designed to teach the techniques of close reading in political theory. By avoiding superficial synopses and providing samples of careful readings and pertinent questions, the book teaches readers how to trace a philosophical argument.

A Guide to the Classics—Guy Griffith 2017-06-15

Originally written in 1936 by two young Cambridge Fellows, A Guide to the Classics is a light-hearted manual on how to pick the Derby winner. However, as the tongue-in-cheek title suggests, there is more to the book than meets the eye, especially as one of the young dons went on to become, according to his 1990 Telegraph obituary, 'the greatest political philosopher in the Anglo-Saxon tradition since Mill - or even Burke'. The book takes the abstraction out of the Derby by attacking the systems which had been developed by generations of 'form' experts. It exposes theoretical solutions as fraudulent - instead it applies hard-headed empirical and historical analysis. Oakshott went on to apply this methodology to his famous critique of 'rationalism' in politics. This long-awaited edition of Griffith and Oakshott's classic text includes a new preface and foreword by horse racing journalist and author Sean Magee, and political commentator Peter Oborne.

50 Politics Classics—Tom Butler-Bowdon 2017-05-30

From Abraham Lincoln to Nelson Mandela, and from Aristotle to George Orwell, 50 POLITICS CLASSICS distills the essence of the books, pamphlets, and speeches of the major leaders and great thinkers that drive real-world change. Spanning 2,500 years, left and right, thinkers and doers, Tom Butler-Bowdon's new book covers activists, war strategists, visionary leaders, economists, philosophers of freedom, feminists, conservatives and environmentalists, right up to contemporary classics such as The Spirit Level and No Logo. Whether you consider yourself to be conservative, liberal, socialist, or Marxist, this book gives you greater understanding of the key ideas that matter in our politically charged times.

A Student's Guide to Political Philosophy—Harvey Claffin Mansfield 2001-01-01

The ISI Guides to the Major Disciplines are reader-friendly introductions to the most important fields of knowledge in the liberal arts. Written by leading scholars for both students and the general public, they will be appreciated by anyone desiring a reliable and informative tour of important subject matter. Each title offers an historical overview of a particular discipline, explains the central ideas of each subject, and evaluates the works of thinkers whose ideas have shaped the world. The book will aid students seeking to make better decisions about their course of study as well as general readers who wish to supplement their education. All who treasure the world of ideas and liberal learning will be motivated by these original and stimulating presentations.

Modern Political Thinkers and Ideas—Tudor Jones 2012-09-10

Modern Political Thinkers and Ideas is an exciting new text that provides students with a clearly presented introduction to some of the key areas of modern political thought. Uniquely combining historical and philosophical approaches to the subject, it describes the writings and ideas of the most influential thinkers of the modern era. Modern Political Thinkers and Ideas features: * the main concepts in modern political theory such as: the State and Sovereignty; Political Obligation and Civil Disobedience; Liberty; Rights; Equality and Justice; Democracy * the ideas of key thinkers such as: Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Paine, Rousseau, Burke; Mill; Bentham; Marx; Rawls, Hayek * a clear and instructive framework for each chapter which provides students with: (a) the significance of each concept in modern political thought; (b) what major political thinkers had to say about each concept; and (c) the relevance of key concepts to contemporary argument and debate.

Political Theory—Evangelia Sembou 2013-08-19

Political theory draws on a number of different disciplines, such as political science, philosophy, history and law. It is a broad subject; its practitioners, depending on their background, bring different perspectives and approaches to the study of political thought with which the main branches of political theory. Moreover, political thought often draws on the insights, as well as engages in a dialogue with, social theory, ethics and the philosophy of law. In addition, nowadays, political theory has expanded to include the study of 'the international' (international political theory). For all these reasons, political theory is a core subject taught in a variety of academic departments. Yet, paradoxically, there has been an increasing tendency in the past few years for political theory to be marginalized in the academy. This is because so much academic political concentrate on the main branches of political thought that this volume falls even worse for political theory, social theory and the philosophy of law, or legal philosophy, with which it enters into fruitful dialogue, are themselves 'weak' areas within sociology and law, respectively. The aim of this volume is to address this situation. What are the problems and challenges that political theory faces today? What is its importance as a distinctive branch of enquiry? What are its main concerns? The fact that political thought operates across disciplinary boundaries and often challenges the boundaries of the aforesaid disciplines is one of its greatest strengths.

A Readers' Guide to Marxist Classics—Party of Communists USA 2018-10-05

This Readers' Guide has been prepared with the object of helping both students engaged in self-study of the Marxist Classics and tutors of political education classes. It aims at giving a survey of works available to English readers in the current standard collections, covering the whole scope of Marxist-Leninist theory. Maurice Cornforth edited this book and compiled all the scholarly research within this edition. The Guide is also designed to help readers to find particular passages dealing with particular subjects, for purposes of study or reference. Lenin's advice that a socialist should form the habit of continually "consulting the classics" cannot be too much stressed. For example, the reader may be concerned in current political work with questions of nationalisation of industry and state capitalism. The joint use of the reference index and the summaries he will be able easily to find where to consult Engels, Lenin and Stalin on this subject.

The Iliad as Politics—Dean Hammer 2002-01-01

In this first full-length treatment of the Iliad as a work of political thought, Hammer demonstrates how Homer's epic is also an ancient Greek discussion on political ethics. Homer redelineates political thought as the activity of addressing issues of collective identity and organization. Using this understanding of politics, he discusses how the characters in the Iliad, through their larger-than-life actions and interactions, embody community issues of authority, conflict, judgment, and the interrelationship between personal and collective identity. The characters' many quarrels, laments, reconciliations, and vows of loyalty and friendship all critically model the principles and controversies of underlying Greek political ethics of communal responsibility and relationship. -BOOK JACKET.

The Political Classics—Professor of Politics Murray Forryth 1993

This book has been designed to enable all students of political ideas to gain a fuller appreciation of the great works which form the foundation of the subject. It spans a critical period: from the turbulent era of the American and French Revolutions through to the calmer waters of the nineteenth century. Seven classic texts have been chosen for analysis: Hamilton's The Federalist, Sieyes' What is the Third Estate?, Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France, Hegel's The Philosophy of Right, de Tocqueville's Democracy in America, Marx and Engels' Communist Manifesto, and Mill's On Liberty. Together they illustrate and express the main themes of the period. The most prominent of these is the growing distinction between the state and society and the problems that this brings in its train. Other themes embrace the interplay of revolution and reaction, the growth of representative government, and the challenge posed by democracy. Clear analysis and explanation contained in each essay will enable the reader to return to the original texts with a new understanding and insight.

50 Politics Classics—Tom Butler-Bowdon 2022-07-05

What if you didn’t have to read the 50 most important books on Politics to know the most important ideas? This is the thinking person’s guide to the big political texts from across the centuries, from the original pioneers to the contemporary. With insightful commentary for each of the 50 books, key quotes and biographical information on the authors and a guide to further reading, 50 Politics Classics gives you a unique overview of the political writings that shaped history and are still shaping minds today. From Abraham Lincoln to Nelson Mandela, and from Aristotle to George Orwell, 50 Politics Classics distills the essence of the books, pamphlets, and speeches of the major leaders and great thinkers that drive real-world change. Spanning 2,500 years, left and right, thinkers and doers, Tom Butler-Bowdon covers activists, war strategists, visionary leaders, economists, philosophers of freedom, feminists, conservatives and environmentalists, right up to contemporary leaders and thought leaders such as Barack Obama, Isobel Walliker and Michael Pollan. Whether you consider yourself to be conservative, liberal, socialist, or Marxist, this book gives you greater understanding of the key ideas that matter in our politically charged times.

Video Classics—Deirdre Boyle 1986

An annotated list of video art lists length, format, release date, credits, distribution, and awards for each tape.

A Guide to Asian Political Classics—Pasqu Li 2012-07-19

This book guides readers through ten classic works of Asian philosophy. Several major schools of Eastern thought are discussed, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism/Taoism, and Chan/Zen. The author connects the ideas of these schools to those of Western philosophy, thereby making the material accessible to people who are unfamiliar with the cultures and intellectual traditions of Asia. A wide range of important topics are addressed: reality, time, self, knowledge, ethics, human nature, enlightenment, and death.
A Guide to Latin Elegy and Lyric-Barbara K. Gould 2021-07-27 Provides the necessary context to read elegiac and lyric poetry, designed for novice and experienced Classics and Latin students alike A Guide to Latin Elegy and Lyric explores the language of Latin poetry while helping readers understand the remarkable period of Roman literary history in which the poetry was composed. With an innovative approach alongside this key aspect of classical scholarship, the authors treat elegy alongside lyric poetry as they cover topics such as the Hellenistic influences on Augustan poetry, the key figures that shaped the elegiac tradition of Rome, the motifs of martial amours ("the warfare of love") and servitum amours ("the slavery of love") in Latin love elegy, and more. Organized into ten chapters, the book begins with an introduction to the literary, political, and social contexts of the Augustan Age. The next six chapters each focus on an individual lyric and elegiac poet—Catullus, Horace, Tibullus, Propertius, Ovid, and Sulpicia—followed by a survey of several lesser-known poets and post-Augustan elegy and lyric. The text concludes with a discussion of major tropes and themes in Latin elegy and lyric, and an overview and analysis of key critical approaches in current scholarship. This volume: Includes full translations alongside the Latin throughout to help discuss illustrations Analyzes recurring themes and tropes found in Latin poetry such as sexuality and gender, politics and patronage, myth and religion, wealth and poverty, emprise, madness, magic, morality, and much more Interdisciplinary approaches to Latin poetry, psychoanalytic, narratology, reception, and decolonization Includes helpful introductory sections: "How to Read a Latin Elegiac or Lyric Poem" and "How to Teach a Latin Elegiac and Lyric Poem" Provides information about each poet, an in-depth discussion of some of their poetry, and cultural and historical background Features a dedicated chapter on Sulpicia, offering readers an ancient female viewpoint on sex and gender, politics, and patronage Part of the acclaimed Blackwell Guides to Classical Literature series, A Guide to Latin Elegy and Lyric is the perfect text for both introductory and advanced courses in Latin elegy and lyric, accessible for students reading the poetry in translation, as well as for those experienced in Latin with an interest in learning a different approach to the subject.

Justice V. Law in Greek Political Thought-Leslie G. Rubin 1999 Do we believe the law good because it is just, or is it just because we think it is good? This collection of essays addresses the relationship of justice to law through the works of Homer, Herodotus, Plato, Aristotle, Sophocles and the Islamic thinker al Farabi. The issues explored include the foundations of our understanding of justice; the foundation of authority of law; the relative merits of the rule of law versus the authority of a wise and just king; the uneasy relationship between particular laws and the general notion of justice (equity); various aspects of justice (reciprocity, proportionality) and their application in law; and the necessity of the rule of law to the goodness and success of a political order. The distinguished contributors often make explicit comparisons to modern situations and contemporary debates. This book will be valuable for those interested in classical political theory, political philosophy, and law.

Aristotle and The Philosophy of Law: Theory, Practice and Justice-Liesbeth Huppes-Cluysenaer 2013-02-14 The book presents a new focus on the legal philosophical texts of Aristotle, which offers a much richer frame for the understanding of practical thought, legal reasoning and political experience. It allows understanding how human beings interact in a complex world, and how extensive the complexity is which results from humans' own power of self-construction and autonomy. The Aristotelian approach recognizes the limits of rationality and the inevitable and constitutive contingency in Law. All this offers a helpful instrument to understand the changes globalisation imposes to legal experience today. The contributions in this collection do not merely pay attention to private virtues, but focus primarily on public law. They deal with the fact that law is dependent on political power and that a person can never be sure about the facts of a case or about the right way to act. They explore the same conception that a detailed knowledge of Aristotle's epistemology is necessary, because of the direct connection between Enlightened reasoning and legal positivism. They pay attention to the concept of proportionality, which can be seen as a precondition to discuss liberalism.

Classics and Irish Politics, 1916-2016-Isabelle Torrance 2020-08-06 This interdisciplinary collection, written by experts in their fields, addresses how models from ancient Greece and Rome have permeated Irish political discourse in the century since 1916. Topics covered include the reception and rejection of classical culture in Ireland; and the politics of Irish language engagement with Greek and Roman models.

50 Politics Classics-Tom Butler-Bowdon 2017-05-30 From Abraham Lincoln to Nelson Mandela, and from Aristotle to George Orwell, 50 POLITICS CLASSICS distills the essence of the books, pamphlets, and speeches of the major leaders and great thinkers that drive real-world change. Spanning 2,500 years, left and right, thinkers and doers, Tom Butler-Bowdon's new book covers activists, war strategists, visionary leaders, economists, philosophers of freedom, feminists, conservatives and environmentalists, right up to contemporary classics such as The Sport Level and No Logo. Whether you consider yourself to be conservative, liberal, socialist, or Marxist, this book gives you greater understanding of the key ideas that matter in our politically charged times.

The Ethics of Subjectivity-E. Immanuel 2015-06-02 Through the works of key figures in ethics since modernity this book charts a shift from dominant fixated, objective moral systems and the dependence on moral authorities such as God, nature and state to universal, formal, billible, individualistic and or vulnerable moral systems that ensue from the modern subject's exercise of reason and freedom.


Accounting and Order-Mahmoud Ezamel 2012 The role of accounting in constructing and sustaining order in organizations and society is little understood. This book aims to contribute to the understanding of accounting literature at two levels. First, it aims to explore the role of accounting technologies in constructing and underpinning order. Second, it seeks to develop a better understanding of accounting practice in the ancient world, drawing in particular on the case of ancient Egypt. The author provides a conceptual treatment of the notion of order and then draws on evidence from ancient Egypt to illustrate and articulate the notion of order and the roles of accounting technologies in constructing and underpinning order. Despite the voluminous literature on ancient Egypt, very little has been written about accounting practices in this civilization. This book fills a major gap in the market bringing together, analyses and theories accounting inscriptions from the various historical episodes of ancient Egypt. A special feature of the book is to examine the role of accounting in constructing and sustaining political, social and economic order. Such an emphasis is not only lacking in the literature on ancient history, but is also hardly addressed in any explicit manner in the extant literature on accounting generally, whether ancient or contemporary.


Our World—Mary Lucy Hall 1891

Gender and the City in Euripides’ Political Plays-Daniel Adam Mendelsohn 2002 The present study makes use of recent insights into classical Greek conceptions of gender (in real life and on stage) and Athenian notions of civic identity to demonstrate that the political plays are, in fact, intellectually subtile and structurally coherent exercises in political theorizing — works that use complex interactions between female and male characters to explore the advantages, and costs, of being a member of the polis. book JACKET.

Storm Over the Constitution-Harry V. Jaffa 1999 Written by one of America’s foremost political and legal theorists, Storm Over the Constitution examines the arguments of some of the leading political philosophers and legal scholars of our time in their debate over the Declaration of independence and its implications for American democracy. This book offers a powerful reminder that the Declaration of Independence, however lofty and idealistic its intentions, must be read in the context of the political and social conditions of the American Revolution. It presents the Declaration as a living document, written in the context of the American Revolution and its implications for American democracy, and it offers an argument for the continued relevance of the Declaration in the context of modern American politics.

Political Science—Ann Hoesin 2015-12-15 This book traces the development of political science from ancient influences such as Plato and Aristotle to modern political shapers such as Robert A. Dahl. It covers changes in the field in both thought and practice due to the rise and fall of political regimes, world wars, colonialism, and social media. The book also includes thorough examinations of international relations, systems of government, constitutions, domestic policy, public opinion, and administration. The book ends with brief biographies of important people in the field of political science that specifies their various contributions.
A Companion to Greek and Roman Political Thought - Ryan K. Balot 2012-12-21 Comprises 34 essays from leading scholars in history, classics, philosophy, and political science to illuminate Greek and Roman political thought in all its diversity and depth. Offers a broad survey of ancient political thought from archaic/Greece through late antiquity and approaches ancient political philosophy from both a normative and historical focus. Examines Greek and Roman political thought within historical context and contemporary debate. Explores the role of ancient political thought in a range of philosophies, such as the individual and community, human rights, religion, and cosmopolitanism.

On Oligarchy - David Tatschnick 2011-12-01 Economic power is becoming increasingly concentrated in the hands of the few, even as democratic movements worldwide allow for political power to be dispersed among the many. With their access to influence, the wealthy can shape and constrain the political power of the rest of the world. As the economic dominance of an elite minority coincides with the forces of globalization, is oligarchy becoming the dominant political regime? This collection of essays reconsidering the concepts of oligarchy highlights the potential conflicts that have opened up between economic management and political life. On Oligarchy deftly illuminates the significance of this regime in the context of pressing global economic and political issues.

A History of Political Thought - Bruce Haddock 2008-09-22 This book is a comprehensive introduction to the history of political thought, tracing the development of arguments and controversies from ancient Greece, through different forms of community, state and empire, to today's global concerns. Bruce Haddock highlights the bewildering variety of contexts that have framed political thinking, yet also displays structural features that have proved to be remarkably stable over time. An important theme in the book is the need to see political philosophy, even in its most abstract formulations, as a response to historically contingent circumstances, without limiting its relevance to those circumstances. The emphasis throughout is on political thinking as a response to hard choices. Major thinkers covered include Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Grotius, Locke, Spinoza, Montesquieu, Hume, Kant, Rousseau, Burke, Hegel, Marx, Mill, Lenin, Schmitt, Nietzsche, Foucault, Oakeshott and Rawls. The book treats political philosophy and theory as a tentative engagement with a fractured and controversial past. Yet political thinking remains the exercise of a burden of responsibility that is inescapable for us. Haddock introduces a history that continues to shape our understanding of ourselves as political and historical creatures. A History of Political Thought will be of interest to students and scholars of politics, history and philosophy.


The Prince - Niccolo Machiavelli 2003-02-04 Machiavelli's highly influential treatise on political power. The Prince shocked Europe on publication with its advocacy of ruthless tactics for gaining absolute power and its abandonment of conventional morality. Niccolo Machiavelli drew on his own experience of office under the turbulent Florentine republic, rejecting traditional values of political theory and recognizing the complicated, transient nature of political life. Concerned not with lofty ideals but with a regime that would last, The Prince becomes the bible of realpolitik, and it still retains its power to alarm and to instruct. In this edition, Machiavelli's tough-minded and pragmatic Italian is preserved in George Bull's clear, unambiguous translation. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Confessions - Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2000 When it was first published in 1781, The Confessions scandalised Europe with its emotional honesty and frank treatment of the author's sexual and intellectual development. Since then, it has had a more profound impact on European thought. Rousseau left posterity a model of the reflective life - the solitary, uncompromising individual, the enemy of servitude and habit and the selfless egoist who dedicates his life to a particular ideal. The Confessions recreates the world in which he progressed from incompetent engraver to grand success, his enthusiasm for experience, his love of nature, and his uncompromising character make him an ideal guide to eighteenth-century Europe, and he was the author of some of the most profound work ever written on the relation between the individual and the state.

A Companion to Greek and Roman Political Thought - Ryan K. Balot 2012-12-26 Comprises 34 essays from leading scholars in history, classics, philosophy, and political science to illuminate Greek and Roman political thought in all its diversity and depth. Offers a broad survey of ancient political thought from archaic/Greece through late antiquity and approaches ancient political philosophy from both a normative and historical focus. Examines Greek and Roman political thought within historical context and contemporary debate. Explores the role of ancient political thought in a range of philosophies, such as the individual and community, human rights, religion, and cosmopolitanism.

The Five "Confucian" Classics - Michael Nylan 2001 The Five Classics associated with Confucius formed the core curriculum in the education of Chinese literati throughout most of the imperial period. In this book Michael Nylan offers a sweeping assessment of these ancient texts and shows how their influence spread across East Asia. Nylan begins by tracing the formation of the Five Classics canon in the pre-Han and Han periods, 206 B.C. to A.D. 220, revising standard views on the topic. She assesses the impact on this canon of the invention of a rival corpus, The Four Books, in the twelfth century. She then analyses each of the Five Classics, focusing on the way in which they were written, how they were transmitted and edited in later periods, and what political, historical, and ethical themes were associated with them through the ages. Finally she elaborates on the intertwined fates of Confucius and the Five Classics over the course of the twentieth century and shows how their contents are relevant to much newer concerns.

Herrick, Fanshawe and the Politics of Intertextuality - Sytthe Pugh 2016-04-22 Royalist polemic and a sophisticated use of classical allusion are at the heart of the two 1648 volumes which are the focus of this study, yet there are striking differences in their politics and in the ways they represent their relation to poetry of the past. Pugh's study of these brilliant but neglected poets brings nuance to our understanding of literary loyalty, and considers the interconnections between politics and poetry. Through a series of detailed close readings revealing the complex and nuanced significance of classical allusion in individual poems, together with an historically informed consideration of the polemical force of both publishing acts, Pugh aligns the two poets with competing factions within the royalist camp. These political differences, she argues, are reflected not only in the idea of monarchy explicitly articulated in their poetry, but also in the distinctive theories of intertextuality foregrounded in each volume. Herrick's absolutism going hand in hand with his peculiarly transcendental image of poetic imitation as an immortal symposium, Fanshawe's constitutionalism with a royalty for experience, his love of nature, and his uncompromising character make him an ideal guide to eighteenth-century Europe, and he was the author of some of the most profound work ever written on the relation between the individual and the state.

Orwell and Politics - George Orwell 2001-05-03 This title brings George Orwell's classic satire Animal Farm together with the author's other works exploring the nature of politics and the Second World War. His topics include: corrupt political language, the oppressive British Empire, and a wry review of Mein Kampf.

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