

## Political Theory Graduate Student Reading List

### Ancient / Medieval

1. Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*
2. Plato, *The Apology, Crito, Phaedo, The Republic*
3. Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics, Politics*
4. Augustine, *City of God, On Free Choice of Will*
5. Thomas Aquinas, selections from *On Kingship, Summa Theologica*

### Modern

1. Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince, The Discourses*
2. Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*
3. John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government, Letter on Toleration*
4. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origins of Inequality, The Social Contract*
5. Immanuel Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals, Critique of Practical Reason, Perpetual Peace*
6. J.S. Mill, *On Liberty, Utilitarianism, On the Subjection of Women, On Representative Government*
7. G.W.F. Hegel, *Reason in History, Philosophy of Right*
8. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *Communist Manifesto, Capital, Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*
9. Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*

### Contemporary (select three)

1. Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*
2. Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History, What is Political Philosophy?*
3. Eric Voegelin, *New Science of Politics*
4. John Dewey, *The Public and Its Problems, Liberalism and Social Action*
5. Jürgen Habermas, *Between Facts and Norms*
6. John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice, Political Liberalism*
7. Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish, Power/Knowledge*

### Recommended Authors and Texts:

#### Ancient

- Homer, *The Odyssey, The Iliad*
- Tragedians—Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides
- Cicero, selected writings from *The Republic, The Laws, On Duties, The Second Philippic against Antony*

#### Modern

- Martin Luther, *On Secular Authority*
- John Calvin, *Institution of the Christian Religion*
- Baron de Montesquieu, *Spirit of the Laws*
- Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*

- Federalist – Anti-federalist
- Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
- Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of Rights of Women*
- David Hume, *Treatise on Human Nature*
- Jeremy Bentham / James Mill, *The Principles of Morals and Legislation*, "Government"
- Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*
- Auguste Comte, *A General View of Positivism*
- Max Weber, *Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism*, "Politics as a Vocation," "Science as a Vocation"
- Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*,

## Contemporary

Other prominent contemporary "schools of thought":

### Atlantic

- Liberal: Isaiah Berlin, Karl Popper, Friedrich Hayek, Robert Nozick
- Communitarian: Charles Taylor, Alasdair MacIntyre, Michael Sandel, Michael Walzer, Jean Bethke Elshtain
- Pragmatist and Neo-Pragmatist: William James, Alain Locke, G.H. Mead, Richard Rorty, Richard Bernstein, Cornel West, etc.
- Deliberative Democracy: Amy Gutmann and Dennis Thompson, John Dryzek, Joshua Cohen, Seyla Benhabib, Jurgen Habermas, etc.
- Conservative: Michael Oakeshott, Leo Strauss, Allan Bloom, Carl Schmitt

### Continental

- Hermeneutics: Hans Georg Gadamer, Paul Ricoeur,
- Phenomenology: Martin Heidegger, Karl Jaspers, Simone Weil
- Existentialism: Jean Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, Maurice Merleau-Ponty,
- Critical Theory / Frankfurt School / Neo-Marxism—Antonio Gramsci, Max Horkheimer, Theodore Adorno, Hebert Marcuse, Ernesto Laclau & Chantal Mouffe, Louis Althusser
- Post-structural: Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, Gilles Deleuze, Judith Butler
- Post-colonial Theory: Givarti Spivak, Hhomi Bahba, Partha Chatterjee, Edward Said, Franz Fanon, C. L. R. James
- Feminist Theory: Simone de Beauvoir, Judith Butler, Nancy Fraser, Drucilla Cornell, Seyla Benhabib, Carol Pateman, Susan Moller Okin, Iris Marion Young, Mary Dietz, Jean Bethke Elshtain