Faculty who teach in this area: Dr. Judith Stiehm, Dr. Brian Nelson, Dr. Clement Fatovic

Students planning to take the field examination in political theory should be familiar with both the key primary texts in Western political thought and some of the most important secondary sources listed below. Those texts marked by an asterisk (*) are especially important and ought to be treated as required texts. Since so much political thought reflects the social and political conditions in which it was developed, it is essential that you acquaint yourself with the relevant historical milieu. *This will require considerable independent reading in addition to any coursework you complete.* If you do not have an adequate background in certain areas of political theory, it may be necessary for you to take or to audit the relevant undergraduate courses.

There are often numerous translations of the primary texts listed below, but not all translations are necessarily reliable or suitable for serious research. You should consult members of the faculty who teach political theory to assist you in selecting an appropriate translation.

**Basic Reference Works**

The following is a list of useful reference works containing chapters or entries on major thinkers in Western political thought. These works are helpful resources, but they cannot and should not substitute for the primary texts they discuss and analyze. Some of these works, particularly the Strauss and Cropsey text, reflect a distinct approach or school of interpretation. Additional reference works on particular thinkers, historical periods, or ideological traditions are listed in secondary works section below.

- **Coppleston, Frederick** *A History of Philosophy*, 9 Volumes
- **Klosko, George** *History of Political Theory: An Introduction* (2 Volumes)
- **Miller, et. al.** *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Political Thought*
- **Nelson, Brian** *Western Political Thought: From Socrates to the Age of Ideology*
- **Sabine, George H. and Thomas L. Thorson** *A History of Political Theory*, Second Edition
- **Sibley, Mulford Q.** *Political Ideas and Ideologies: A History of Political Thought*
- **Strauss, Leo and Joseph Cropsey** *History of Political Philosophy*
Journals

As is true of the other subfields, refereed journals are the primary forum in which specialists engage in an ongoing dialogue and advance the discipline. These journals either specialize in or frequently contain articles on various subjects and debates in political theory.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Political Science Review</th>
<th>American Journal of Political Science</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
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<td>Interpretation</td>
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<td>Journal of Politics</td>
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<td>The Responsive Community</td>
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<td>Social Philosophy and Policy</td>
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PRIMARY TEXTS

The primary works listed in this section are sub-divided by period. You should consult the corresponding sub-division in the section on secondary works for guidance in understanding these works and to familiarize yourself with the diverse approaches and questions relating to these texts.

(ESSENTIAL TEXTS ARE MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK*)

Ancients

Sophocles

Antigone

Thucydides

*The History of the Peloponnesian War (especially “Pericles’ Funeral Oration” and the “Melian Dialogue”)

Plato

*Apoloogy
*Crito
*Republic
*Statesman
*The Laws
*Gorgias
*Phaedo

Aristotle

*The Nicomachean Ethics
*The Politics

Marcus Tullius Cicero

*On the Commonwealth (a.k.a. The Republic)
*On Duties
*The Laws

Marcus Aurelius

The Meditations
Christian Era

**Boethius**

_The Consolation of Philosophy_

**St. Augustine**

*The City of God against the Pagans_

_The Confessions_

**John of Salisbury**

_Policraticus: Of the Frivolities of Courtiers and the Footprints of Philosophers_

**John of Paris**

_On Royal and Papal Power_

**St. Thomas Aquinas**

*On Kingship, or The Governance of Rulers_

*Treatise on Law (from Summa Theologiae)_

_Treatise on Virtue (from Summa Theologiae)_

**Dante Alighieri**

_Monarchy_

**Marsiglio de Padua**

*Defensor Pacis_

**Sir Thomas More**

*Utopia_

**Christine de Pizan**

_The Book of the Body Politic_

_The Book of the City of Ladies_

**Niccolò Machiavelli**

*Discourses on Livy_

*The Prince_

**Martin Luther**

_On Secular Authority_

**John Calvin**

_On God and Political Duty_

Early Modernity

**Jean Bodin**

_On Sovereignty (from The Six Books of the Commonwealth)_ (Cambridge University Press)

**Francis Bacon**

_The Advancement of Learning_

_The Essays_

_The New Atlantis_

**Rene Descartes**

_Discourse on Method_

_Meditations_

**Hugo Grotius**

_The Rights of War and Peace_
Thomas Hobbes
*De Cive
*Leviathan

James Harrington
*The Commonwealth of Oceana

John Milton
*Areopagitica

John Locke
*An Essay Concerning Human Understanding
*Of the Conduct of the Understanding
*Second Treatise of Government

Benedictus de Spinoza
*A Political Treatise
*A Theologico-Political Treatise

Modernity and Enlightenment

Bernard Mandeville
*Fable of the Bees

Charles Louis Montesquieu
*The Persian Letters
*The Spirit of the Laws

David Hume
*An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals
*Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary
*A Treatise of Human Nature

Jean-Jacques Rousseau
*Discourse on the Sciences and Arts (a.k.a. First Discourse)
*Discourse on the Origin of Inequality (a.k.a. Second Discourse)
*Emile: Or on Education
*The Government of Poland
*The Social Contract

Adam Smith
*An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations
*The Theory of Moral Sentiments

Jeremy Bentham
*A Fragment on Government
*An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation

Immanuel Kant
*"Perpetual Peace," "An Answer to the Question: 'What Is Enlightenment?'", "Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose" (in Political Writings [Cambridge University Press])
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author/Group</th>
<th>Works</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Paine</td>
<td><em>Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>The Metaphysics of Morals</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>Common Sense</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>Rights of Man</em></td>
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<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>A Summary View of the Rights of British America  &lt;br&gt;<em>The Declaration of Independence</em>  &lt;br&gt;A Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom  &lt;br&gt;<em>Notes on the State of Virginia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Assembly of France</td>
<td>Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen</td>
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<td>Edmund Burke</td>
<td><em>A Vindication of Natural Society</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>Reflections on the Revolution in France</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Wollstonecraft</td>
<td><em>A Vindication of the Rights of Women</em></td>
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<td>Benjamin Constant</td>
<td>&quot;The Spirit of Conquest and Usurpation and Their Relation to European Civilization&quot; (Cambridge University Press)  &lt;br&gt;<em>&quot;The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with That of the Moderns&quot;</em> (Cambridge University Press)</td>
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<td>Johann Gottlieb Fichte</td>
<td>Addresses to the German Nation</td>
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<td>Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel</td>
<td>“Introduction,” <em>The Philosophy of History</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>The Philosophy of Right</em></td>
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<td>Alexis de Tocqueville</td>
<td><em>Democracy in America</em>  &lt;br&gt;The Old Regime and the French Revolution</td>
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<td>Henry David Thoreau</td>
<td>“Civil Disobedience”</td>
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<td>Ralph Waldo Emerson</td>
<td>“Self Reliance”</td>
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<tr>
<td>John C. Calhoun</td>
<td>A Disquisition on Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Stuart Mill</td>
<td><em>Considerations on Representative Government</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>On Liberty</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>The Subjection of Women</em>  &lt;br&gt;Utilitarianism</td>
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<td>Karl Marx</td>
<td><em>Preface to Political Economy</em>  &lt;br&gt;<em>Capital</em></td>
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*On the Jewish Question
*The Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844
"Theses on Feuerbach"
*The Communist Manifesto
*The German Ideology

Friedrich Nietzsche
*Beyond Good and Evil
*On the Genealogy of Morals
“On the Uses and Disadvantages of History for Life”
Thus Spoke Zarathustra

Ernest Renan
"What Is a Nation?"

Gilman, Charlotte Perkins
Women and Economics

Twentieth Century

W. E. B. Du Bois
The Souls of Black Folk

Max Weber
“Politics as a Vocation”
*The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
*State and Economy

John Dewey
Liberalism and Social Action
The Public and Its Problems

Croly, Herbert
The Promise of American Life

Freud, Sigmund
Civilization and Its Discontents

Ferdinand de Saussure
Course in General Linguistics

Antonio Gramsci
“The Modern Prince,” “State and Civil Society,” “The Study of Philosophy” (from The Prison Notebooks)

Georg Lukács
“Reification and the Consciousness of the Proletariat” (from History and Class Consciousness: Studies in Marxist Dialectics)

John Maynard Keynes
“The New Liberalism”

Walter Benjamin
“Critique of Violence” (in Reflections)
“Theses on the Philosophy of History,” “The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction” (in Illuminations)
Carl Schmitt  
*The Concept of the Political  
The Crisis of Parliamentary Democracy

Georges Sorel  
Reflections on Violence

Friedrich Hayek  
The Constitution of Liberty  
*The Road to Serfdom

Martin Heidegger  
The Question Concerning Technology and Other Essays

Louis Althusser  
“Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses” (from Lenin and Philosophy and Other Essays)

Leo Strauss  
*Natural Right and History  
**“What Is Political Philosophy” (from What Is Political Philosophy and Other Essays)

Michael Oakeshott  
“Rationalism in Politics” (from Rationalism in Politics: And Other Essays)  
On Human Conduct

Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno  
Dialectic of Enlightenment

Joseph Schumpeter  
Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy

Hannah Arendt  
*The Human Condition  
Eichmann in Jerusalem  
On Revolution  
The Origins of Totalitarianism

Frantz Fanon  
The Wretched of the Earth

Simone de Beauvoir  
The Second Sex

Thomas S. Kuhn  
The Structure of Scientific Revolutions

Isaiah Berlin  
*Four Essays on Liberty

Hans-Georg Gadamer  
Truth and Method

Sheldon S. Wolin  
Politics and Vision

Karl Popper  
The Open Society and Its Enemies, 2 Volumes

Herbert Marcuse  
One-Dimensional Man
### Contemporary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Books/Works</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michel Foucault</td>
<td><em>Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison</em></td>
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<td><em>History of Sexuality: Volume One: An Introduction</em></td>
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<td><em>Power/Knowledge</em></td>
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<td>Jürgen Habermas</td>
<td><em>Between Facts and Norms</em></td>
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<td><em>Legitimation Crisis</em></td>
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<td><em>The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere</em></td>
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<td><em>The Theory of Communicative Action, 2 Volumes</em></td>
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<td>John Rawls</td>
<td><em>A Theory of Justice</em></td>
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<td><em>Political Liberalism</em></td>
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<td>Nozick, Robert</td>
<td><em>Anarchy, State, and Utopia</em></td>
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<td>Carol Pateman</td>
<td><em>The Problem of Political Obligation</em></td>
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<td><em>The Sexual Contract</em></td>
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<td>Said, Edward W.</td>
<td><em>Orientalism</em></td>
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<td>Alasdair MacIntyre</td>
<td><em>After Virtue</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Catharine A. MacKinnon</td>
<td><em>Toward a Feminist Theory of the State</em></td>
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<td>Susan Moller Okin</td>
<td><em>Women in Western Political Thought</em></td>
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<td><em>Justice, Gender and the Family</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hanna Fenichel Pitkin</td>
<td><em>The Concept of Representation</em></td>
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<td>Anderson, Benedict</td>
<td><em>Imagined Communities</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Hartsock</td>
<td><em>Money, Sex, and Power</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol Gilligan</td>
<td><em>In a Different Voice</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Chodorow</td>
<td><em>The Reproduction of Motherhood</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Walzer</td>
<td><em>Spheres of Justice</em></td>
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<td>bell hooks</td>
<td><em>Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center</em></td>
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Barber, Benjamin  
*Strong Democracy: Participatory Politics for a New Age*

Charles Taylor  
“Atomism”  
*Sources of the Self*

Richard Rorty  
*Contingency, Irony, and Solidarity*  
*Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*

Kathleen B. Jones  
*Compassionate Authority: Democracy and the Representation of Women*

Joan C. Tronto  
*Moral Boundaries: A Political Argument for an Ethic of Care*

Iris Marion Young  
*Justice and the Politics of Difference*

Judith Butler  
*Bodies that Matter*  
*Gender Trouble*

Will Kymlicka  
*Multicultural Citizenship*

Patricia Hill Collins  
*Black Feminist Thought*

Cornel West  
*Race Matters*

Giorgio Agamben  
*Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life*

**SECONDARY SOURCES**

The works listed below include classic commentaries and important recent contributions. Some can serve as good introductions to your study of particular thinkers, while others are advanced works that can serve as models of outstanding research in the field. This is by no means a comprehensive list—it is merely a starting point for further research.

**Ancient**

Barker, Ernest  
*The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle*

Euben, Peter  
*Greek Tragedy and Political Theory*

Euben, Peter, John R. Wallach, Josiah Ober  
*Athenian Political Thought and the Reconstruction of American Democracy*

Nussbaum, Martha  
*The Fragility of Goodness: Luck and Ethics in Greek Tragedy and Philosophy*
Strauss, Leo  
*The City and Man*

Villa Dana  
*Socratic Citizenship*

Yack, Bernard  
*The Problems of a Political Animal: Community, Justice, and Conflict in Aristotelian Political Thought*

Kraut, Richard  
*The Cambridge Companion to Plato*

Barnes, Jonathan  
*The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle*

**Medieval**

Deane, Herbert A.  
*Political and Social Ideas of St. Augustine*

Alexander P. D'Entreves  
*Natural Law*  
*The Medieval Contribution to Political Thought: Thomas Aquinas, Marsilius of Padua, Richard Hooker*  
*Dante as a Political Thinker*

John Neville Figgis  
*Studies in Political Thought from Gerson to Grotius*

Alan Gewirth  
*Marsilius of Padua and Medieval Political Philosophy*

Kantorowicz, Ernst H.  
*The King’s Two Bodies: A Study in Medieval Political Theology*

Nederman, Cary J.  
*Medieval Aristotelianism and its Limits: Classical Traditions in Moral and Political Philosophy*

J. I. Catto  
"Ideas and Experience in the Political Thought of Aquinas," 71 *Past and Present* (1976)

Rahe, Paul A.  
*Republics Ancient and Modern, Volume 1: The Ancien Régime in Classical Greece*

Tierney, Brian  
*Foundations of the Conciliar Theory: The Contribution of the Medieval Canonists from Gratian to the Great Schism*

Eleonore Stump and Norman Kretzmann  
*The Cambridge Companion to Augustine*

Eleonore Stump and Norman Kretzmann  
*The Cambridge Companion to Aquinas*
Arthur O. Lovejoy  
*The Great Chain of Being*

Walter Ullmann  
*Medieval Political Thought*

Bock, Gisela, Quentin Skinner, and Maurizio Viroli  
*Machiavelli and Republicanism*

Pitkin, Hanna Fenichel  
*Fortune Is a Woman*

Mansfield, Harvey C. Jr.  
*Machiavelli’s Virtue*

J. H. Burns  
*Cambridge History of Medieval Political Thought, 350-1450*

J. H. Burns  
*The Cambridge History of Political Thought, 1450-1700*

**Early Modernity**

Franklin Julian H.  
*Jean Bodin and the Rise of Absolutist Theory*

J.G.A. Pocock  
*The Machiavellian Moment: Florentine Political Thought and the Atlantic Republican Tradition*

Macpherson, C. B.  
*The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke*

Skinner, Quentin  
*The Foundations of Modern Political Thought, 2 Volumes*

Liberty Before Liberalism

Reason and Rhetoric in the Philosophy of Hobbes

Tuck, Richard  
*Natural Rights Theories: Their Origin and Development*

Philosophy and Government, 1572-1651

Johnstone, David  
*The Rhetoric of Leviathan: Thomas Hobbes and the Politics of Cultural Transformation*

Tom Sorell  
*The Cambridge Companion to Hobbes*

Ashcraft, Richard  
*Revolutionary Politics & Locke’s Two Treatises of Government*

Dunn, John  
*Locke*

*The Political Thought of John Locke: An Historical Account of the Argument of the “Two Treatises of Government”*
Grant, Ruth W.  
*John Locke’s Liberalism*

McClure, Kirstie M.  
*Judging Rights: Lockean Politics and the Limits of Consent*

Schochet, Gordon J.  
*Life, Liberty, and Property: Essays on Locke’s Political Ideas*


Waldron, Jeremy  
*God, Locke, and Equality: Christian Foundations in Locke’s Political Thought*

Fatovic, Clement  

Vere Chappell  
*The Cambridge Companion to Locke*

Fink, Zera S.  

**Modernity and Enlightenment**

Forbes, Duncan  
*Hume’s Philosophical Politics*

Norton, David Fate  
*The Cambridge Companion to Hume*

Albert O. Hirschman  
*The Passions and the Interests*

Kojève, Alexandre  
*Introduction to the Reading of Hegel: Lectures on the Phenomenology of Spirit*

Taylor, Charles  
*Hegel and Modern Society*

Riley, Patrick  
*The Cambridge Companion to Rousseau*


John N. Findlay  
*Hegel: A Re-Examination*

Avineri, Shlomo  
*Hegel's Theory of the Modern State*

The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx
| Frederick C. Beiser                        | *The Cambridge Companion to Hegel* |
| Thompson, Dennis                           | *John Stuart Mill and Representative Government* |
| Terrell Carver                              | *The Cambridge Companion to Marx* |
| Bruce Detwiler                              | *Nietzsche and the Politics of Aristocratic Radicalism* |
| Appel, Frederick                            | *Nietzsche Contra Democracy* |
| Iain Hampsher-Monk                          | *History of Modern Political Thought: Major Political Thinkers from Hobbes to Marx* |

**Twentieth-Century**

| Margaret Canovan                          | *The Political Thought of Hannah Arendt* |
| Seyla Benhabib                              | *The Reluctant Modernism of Hannah Arendt* |
| Lisa Jane Disch                            | *Hannah Arendt and the Limits of Philosophy* |
| Dana Richard Villa                         | *Cambridge Companion to Hannah Arendt*  
|                                            | *Politics, Philosophy, Terror: Essays on the Thought of Hannah Arendt* |
| David Couzens Hoy and Thomas McCarthy      | *Critical Theory* |
| Seyla Benhabib                              | *Critique, Norm, and Utopia: A Study of the Foundations of Critical Theory* |
| Terence Ball and Richard Bellamy           | *Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century Political Thought* |

**Contemporary Political Thought**

<p>| Hubert L. Dreyfus and Paul Rabinow         | <em>Michel Foucault: Beyond Structuralism and Hermeneutics</em> |
| David Couzens Hoy                          | <em>Foucault: A Critical Reader</em> |
| Thomas McCarthy                            | <em>The Critical Theory of Jürgen Habermas</em> |
| Seyla Benhabib and Fred R. Dallmayr        | <em>The Communicative Ethics Controversy</em> |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author/Editor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will Kymlicka</td>
<td><em>Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Feminist Political Thought</strong></td>
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<td>Eisenstein, Zillah</td>
<td><em>Radical Future of Liberal Feminism</em></td>
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<td>Hirschmann, Nancy and Christine DiStefano</td>
<td><em>Revisioning the Political: Feminist Reconstructions of Traditional Concepts in Western Political Theory</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison M. Jaggar and Iris Marion Young</td>
<td><em>Companion to Feminist Philosophy</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison M. Jaggar and Paula S. Rothenberg</td>
<td><em>Feminist Frameworks: Alternative Theoretical Accounts of the Relations between Women and Men</em></td>
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<td>Stiehm, Judith</td>
<td><em>Arms and the Enlisted Woman</em></td>
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<td>Berkowitz, Peter</td>
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<td>Robert D. Cumming</td>
<td><em>Human Nature and History: A Study of the Development of Liberal Political Thought</em></td>
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<td>Gray, John</td>
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<td>Holmes, Stephen</td>
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<td><em>Passions and Constraint: On the Theory of Liberal Democracy</em></td>
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<td>Mehta, Uday Singh</td>
<td><em>Liberalism and Empire: A Study in Nineteenth-Century British Liberal Thought</em></td>
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<td>Rosenblum, Nancy</td>
<td><em>Liberalism and the Moral Life</em></td>
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<td>Sandel, Michael J.</td>
<td><em>Liberalism and the Limits of Justice</em></td>
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<td><strong>American Political Thought</strong></td>
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<td>Bailyn, Bernard</td>
<td><em>The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution</em></td>
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<td>Epstein, David F.</td>
<td><em>The Political Theory of The Federalist</em></td>
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<td>Hartz, Louis</td>
<td><em>The Liberal Tradition in America</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pangle, Thomas L.</td>
<td>The Spirit of Modern Republicanism: The Moral Vision of the Founders and the Philosophy of Locke</td>
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<tr>
<td>J.G.A. Pocock</td>
<td>*The Machiavellian Moment: Florentine Political Thought and the Atlantic Republican Tradition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rahe, Paul A.</td>
<td>Republics Ancient and Modern, Volume 3: Inventions of Prudence: Constituting the American Regime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandel, Michael J.</td>
<td>Democracy's Discontent: America in Search of a Public Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shklar, Judith N.</td>
<td>Redeeming American Political Thought.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smith, Rogers M.</td>
<td>Civic Ideals: Conflicting Visions of Citizenship in U.S. History</td>
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<td>Wills, Garry</td>
<td>Explaining America: The Federalist Inventing America: Jefferson’s Declaration of Independence</td>
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<td>Wood, Gordon S.</td>
<td>The Creation of the American Republic: 1776-1787 The Radicalism of the American Revolution</td>
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