

Theory of Politics (114) – Comprehensive Reading List

Robert L. Frazier

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Authority

Reading

- Richard E. Flathman. Legitimacy. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 527–533.
- John A. Simmons. *Moral Principles and Political Obligation*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1979, chs 2 & 8.
- L Green. *The Authority of States*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1988, chs 2 & 8.
- John Rawls. *A Theory of Justice*. The Belknap Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1971, ch. 6.
- Robert Nozick. *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*. Basic Books, Inc., New York, 1974, pp. 90-101.
- Robert Paul Wolff. *In Defense of Anarchism*. Harper and Row, New York, 1970, ch. 1.
- Joseph Raz. *The Morality of Freedom*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1986, part I.
- Ronald Dworkin. *Law's Empire*. Fontana Press, London, 1986, pp 190-216.
- D. D. Raphael. *Problems of Political Philosophy*. Pall Mall, London, second edition, 1990, chs 6 & 7.
- Thomas Nagel. Moral conflict and political legitimacy. In Joseph Raz, editor. *Authority*. Blackwell, Oxford, 1990, pages 300–324.
- Jean Hampton. *Political Philosophy*. Westview Press, Boulder, 1998, ch. 1.
- Jeremy Waldron. Special ties and natural duties. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 22: 3–30, 1993.

The selections by Wolff and Dworkin also can be found in Joseph Raz, editor. *Authority*. Blackwell, Oxford, 1990.

Essay

When does a state have political authority over its citizens? Are citizens obligated to obey the commands of a state that has political authority over them?

Liberty and Libertarianism

Reading

- John Stuart Mill. *On Liberty*. Fontana, Glasgow, 1859/1962, chs 1 & 2.
- Joel Feinberg. *Rights, Justice, and the Bounds of Liberty*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1980, ch. 2.
- Chandran Kukathas. Liberty. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 534–548.
- Isaiah Berlin. Two concepts of liberty. In Anthony M. Quinton, editor. *Political Philosophy*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1967, pages 141–152.
- Joel Feinberg. *Social Philosophy*. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, 1973, chapters 1 and 2.
- Robert Nozick. *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*. Basic Books, Inc., New York, 1974, pp. 149–182.
- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, chapter 4.
- Jan Narveson. Libertarianism. In Hugh LaFollette, editor. *Blackwell Guide to Ethical Theory*. Blackwell, Oxford, 2000, pages 306–24.
- Amartya Sen. Liberty & social choice. *Journal of Philosophy*, 80(1):5–28, 1983.

Essay

Is there more than one conception of liberty? Does liberty (each kind) have value? Is it intrinsic or instrumental value? If liberty does have value, is it a value that should be promoted by the state? Is there a relationship between liberty and Libertarianism?

Equality

Reading

- Richard J. Arneson. Equality. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 489–507.
- Bernard Williams. *Problems of the Self*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1973. ISBN 0 521 29060 pbk, chapter 14.
- Thomas Nagel. *Mortal Questions*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1979, chapter 8.
- John Rawls. *A Theory of Justice*. The Belknap Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1971, chapters 1 & 2.
- Ronald Dworkin. Equality of welfare; part ii: Equality of resources. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 10:283–345, 1981, if possible.
- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, chapter 3.
- Louis P. Pojman. On equal human worth: A critique of contemporary egalitarianism. In Louis P. Pojman and Robert Westmoreland, editors, *Equality: Selected Readings*, pages 282–99. OUP, Oxford, 1997.
- G. A. Cohen. *Rescuing Justice & Equality*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2008, ch 1.
- Amarty Sen. Equality of what? In S. M. McMurrin, editor, *The Tanner Lectures on Human Values*, pages 195–220. CUP, Cambridge, 1980.
- Derek Parfit. Equality and priority. *Ratio*, 10:202–221, 1997.

Essay

Is there more than one conception of equality? Does equality (each kind) have value? Is it intrinsic or instrumental value? If equality does have value, is it a value that should be promoted by the state?

Democracy

Reading

- Amy Gutmann. Democracy. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 411–421.
- Joseph Schumpeter. Two concepts of democracy. In Anthony M. Quinton, editor. *Political Philosophy*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1967, pages 153–188.
- D. D. Raphael. *Problems of Political Philosophy*. Pall Mall, London, second edition, 1990, chapter 6.
- Robert Paul Wolff. *In Defense of Anarchism*. Harper and Row, New York, 1970, chapter 2.
- Joshua Cohen. Deliberation and democratic legitimacy. In Alan Hamelin and Philip Pettit, editors, *The Good Polity*, pages 17–34. Blackwell, Oxford, 1989.
- Jean Hampton. *Political Philosophy*. Westview Press, Boulder, 1998, chapter 3.
- Brian Barry. Is democracy special? In Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Fifth series. OUP, Oxford, 1979, pages 155–196.
- William N. Nelson. *On Justifying Democracy*. Routledge & Kegan Paul, London, 1980.
- Richard Wollheim. A paradox in the theory of democracy. In Peter Laslett and W.G. Runciman, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Second series. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1962, pages 71–87.

Essay

What is democracy? Does it have any special value? Can a democratic majority ever be tyrannical?

Communitarianism

Reading

- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, ch. 6.
- Michael Sandel. The procedural republic and the unencumbered self. *Political Theory*, 12:81–96, 1984.
- Michael Sandel. *Liberalism and the Limits of Justice*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1982, chs 1 & 4.
- Charles Taylor. *Philosophy and the Human Sciences: Philosophical Papers*, volume ii. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1985, pp 187–210.
- Alasdair MacIntyre. *After Virtue*. University of Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, second edition, 1984, ch. 15.
- Will Kymlicka. *Liberalism, Community and Culture*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1989, chs 4 & 5.
- Thomas Hurka. *Perfectionism*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1993, ch. 11.
- William Galston. Moral personality and liberal theory: John Rawls's Dewey lectures. *Political Theory*, 10:492–519, 1982.
- Allen Buchanan. Assessing communitarian critique of liberalism. *Ethics*, 99:852–882, 1989.

Essay

What is the communitarian objection to liberalism? Is it a good objection? Does communitarianism provide a satisfying alternative?

Liberal Neutrality

Reading

- Alan Ryan. Liberalism. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 291–311.
- John Rawls. *Political Liberalism*. Columbia University Press, New York, N.Y., 1993, Lecture IV..
- Joseph Raz. *The Morality of Freedom*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1986, ch. 5.
- Will Kymlicka. Liberal individualism and liberal neutrality. *Ethics*, 99:883–905, 1989.
- William A. Galston. *Liberal Purposes*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1991, chs 4 & 5.
- Gerald Dworkin. Non-neutral principles. In Norman Daniels, editor. *Reading Rawls*. Basic Books, New York, 1975, pages 124–140.
- David Gauthier. *Morals By Agreement*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1986, ch. II.
- Alasdair MacIntyre. *Whose Justice? Which Rationality?* University of Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, 1988, Ch. XVII.
- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, pp. 199-205.

Essay

Can the state maintain a neutral posture with respect to what constitutes the good life? Should it?

Socialism

Reading

- Peter Self. Socialism. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 333–355.
- John E Roemer. *Free to Lose: An Introduction to Marxist Economic Philosophy*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1988, chs 5 & 10.1.
- John E. Roemer. The morality and efficiency of market socialism. *Ethics*, 102: 448–464, 1992.
- Philippe Van Parijs. Basic income capitalism. *Ethics*, 102:465–484, 1992.
- Richard J. Arneson. Is socialism dead? a comment on market socialism and basic income capitalism. *Ethics*, 102:485–511, 1992.
- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, ch. 5.
- G. A. Cohen. Marxism and contemporary political philosophy, or: why nozick exercises some marxists more than he does and egalitarian liberals. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, suppl. vol. 16:363–387, 1990.
- Andrew Vincent. *Modern Political Ideologies*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1992, ch. 4.
- Robert E. Lane. Capitalist man, socialist man. In Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Fifth series. OUP, Oxford, 1979, pages 57–77.

Essay

‘Socialism should be consigned to the dustbin of history.’ Discuss.

The Social Contract

Reading

- Thomas Hobbes. *Leviathan*. Collins, London, 1651/1962, Part 1, chs xii-xv.
- John Locke. *The Second Treatise of Government*. The Library of Liberal Arts, New York, 1952, chs II and VIII.**
- Jean Hampton. Contract and consent. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 379–393.
- Kymlicka. The social contract tradition. In Peter Singer, editor. *A Companion to Ethics*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1991, pages 186–196.
- David Gauthier. *Morals By Agreement*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1986, chs 1 & 2.
- David Gauthier. The social contract as ideology. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 6: 130–164, 1977.
- Carole Pateman. *The Disorder of Women: Democracy, Feminism and Political Theory*. Polity Press, Cambridge, MA, 1980, ch 3.
- Peter Vallentyne, editor. *Contractarianism and Rational Choice*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1991, chs 1 & 3.
- John Rawls. *A Theory of Justice*. The Belknap Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1971, ch 1.

* Any version/edition will do.

Essay

Does contractarianism give an adequate account of why we should feel obliged to obey the commands of the state?

Cosmopolitanism (and war)

Reading

- Brian Berry. Statism and nationalism: a cosmopolitan critique. In *Global Justice: Nomos 41*, pages 12–66. New York University Press, New York, NY, 1999.
- John Rawls. The law of peoples. In *On Human Rights*, pages 41–82. Basic Books, New York, NY, 1993.
- Simon Caney. *Justice Beyond Borders*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2005, chs 2, 5, 6 & 7.
- Jeremy Waldron. What is cosmopolitan? *Journal of Political Philosophy*, 8:227–43, 2000.
- Richard Sorabji. Just war from ancient origins to the conquistadors debates and its modern relevance. In *The Ethics of War: Shared Problems in Different Traditions* Richard Sorabji and David Rodin. *The Ethics of War: Shared Problems in Different Traditions*. Ashgate, Aldershot, 2006, pages 13–29.
- Richard Norman. War, humanitarian intervention and human rights. In *The Ethics of War: Shared Problems in Different Traditions* Richard Sorabji and David Rodin. *The Ethics of War: Shared Problems in Different Traditions*. Ashgate, Aldershot, 2006, pages 191–207.
- David Luban. Just war and human rights. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 9:160–81, 1980.
- Tony Coady. War for humanity: a critique. In *Ethics and Foreign Intervention*, pages 274–295. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.
- Cécile Fabre. Cosmopolitanism, just war theory and legitimate authority. *International Affairs*, 84:963–976, 2008.

Some of these are available online.

Essay

Does cosmopolitanism offer a more attractive account of the proper relationship between people around the globe than does internationalism? Does it offer a distinctive justification for war, or the use of force? If so, is it a persuasive justification?

Nationalism

Reading

- Alan H. Goldman. The moral significance of national boundaries. In Peter A. French, Theodore E. Uehling, Jr., and Howard K. Wettstein, editors, *Social and Political Philosophy*, volume VII of *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, pages 437–453. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1982.
- Anthony D. Smith. *National Identity*. Penguin, London, 1991, chs 1–3.
- David Miller. *On Nationality*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1995, chs 1, 2 & 5.
- Brendan O’Leary. Symposium on David Miller’s *On Nationality*. *Nations and Nationalism*, 2:407–451, 1996.
- Avishai Margalit and Joseph Raz. National self-determination. *Journal of Philosophy*, LXXXVII:439–461., 1990.
- Allen Buchanan. Secession and nationalism. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 586–596.
- Jean Hampton. *Political Philosophy*. Westview Press, Boulder, 1998, ch 6.

Essay

Is there a right to national self-determination?

Feminism and the Public/Private Distinction

Reading

- John Stuart Mill. *On Liberty*. Fontana, Glasgow, 1859/1962, ch 4*.
- Carole Pateman. *The Disorder of Women: Democracy, Feminism and Political Theory*. Polity Press, Cambridge, MA, 1980, ch. 6**.
- Catharine A. MacKinnon. *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Harvard, Cambridge, MA, 1989, ch. 10.
- Will Kymlicka. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: an Introduction*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1990, pp 239–262.
- Hanna Arendt. *The Human Condition*. Chicago University press, Chicago, 1958, part II.
- Seyla Benhabib. Feminist theory and hannah arendt's concept of public space. *History of the Human Sciences*, 6, 1993.
- Jeff Weintraub. The theory and politics of the public/private distinction. In *Public and Private in Thought and Practice: Perspectives on a Grand Dichotomy*, pages 1–42. Chicago University Press, Chicago, 1997.
- Morton J Horwitz. The history of public/private distinction. *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, 130:1423–1428, 1982.

* Any version/edition will do.

** Also in Philip Pettit, editor. *Contemporary Political Theory*. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York, NY, 1991.

Essay

Of what importance in liberal theory is the distinction between the public and private. What are the feminist objections to the employment of distinction in political theory? Are they convincing?

Rights

Reading

- H. L. A. Hart. Are there any natural rights? *The Philosophical Review*, 64:175–191, 1955.
- Jeremy Waldron. Rights. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 575–585.
- Joel Feinberg. *Rights, Justice, and the Bounds of Liberty*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1980. Ch. 7.
- Ronald Dworkin. Rights as trumps. In Jeremy Waldron, editor, *Theories of Rights*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1985.
- Joseph Raz. *The Morality of Freedom*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1986. Chs 7 & 8.
- Brenda Almond. Rights. In Peter Singer, editor. *A Companion to Ethics*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1991, pages 259–269.
- Alan R. White. *Rights*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1984. Chs 6 & 7.
- Kymlicka. *Multicultural Citizenship*. OUP, Oxford, 1995. Chs 3 & 6.
- J. L. Mackie. Can there be a right-based moral theory? In Peter A. French, Theodore E. Uehling, Jr., and Howard K. Wettstein, editors, *Studies in Ethical Theory*, volume III of *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, pages 350–359. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1978. ISBN 0-8166-0971-3 (Pbk).

Essay

What are rights and who has them? How central are they to our moral/political thought?

Bibliography

References

- Brenda Almond. Rights. In Peter Singer, editor. *A Companion to Ethics*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1991, pages 259–269.
- Hanna Arendt. *The Human Condition*. Chicago University press, Chicago, 1958.
- Richard J. Arneson. Is socialism dead? a comment on market socialism and basic income capitalism. *Ethics*, 102:485–511, 1992.
- Richard J. Arneson. Equality. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 489–507.
- Shlomo Avineri and Avner de Shalit, editors. *Communitarianism and Individualism*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1992.
- Brian Barry. Is democracy special? In Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Fifth series. OUP, Oxford, 1979, pages 155–196.
- Seyla Benhabib. Feminist theory and hannah arendt’s concept of public space. *History of the Human Sciences*, 6, 1993.
- Isaiah Berlin. Two concepts of liberty. In Anthony M. Quinton, editor. *Political Philosophy*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1967, pages 141–152.
- Isaiah Berlin. *Four Essays on Liberty*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1969.
- Brian Berry. Statism and nationalism: a cosmopolitan critique. In *Global Justice: Nomos 41*, pages 12–66. New York University Press, New York, NY, 1999.
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- Simon Caney. *Justice Beyond Borders*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2005.
- Tony Coady. War for humanity: a critique. In *Ethics and Foreign Intervention*, pages 274–295. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.
- G. A. Cohen. Marxism and contemporary political philosophy, or: why nozick exercises some marxists more than he does and egalitarian liberals. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, suppl. vol. 16:363–387, 1990.

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- Joshua Cohen. Deliberation and democratic legitimacy. In Alan Hamlin and Philip Pettit, editors, *The Good Polity*, pages 17–34. Blackwell, Oxford, 1989.
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- Ronald Dworkin. Equality of welfare; part ii: Equality of resources. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 10:283–345, 1981.
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- Joel Feinberg. *Social Philosophy*. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, 1973.
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- Alan H. Goldman. The moral significance of national boundaries. In Peter A. French, Theodore E. Uehling, Jr., and Howard K. Wettstein, editors, *Social and Political Philosophy*, volume VII of *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, pages 437–453. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1982.
- Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993.
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- Jean Hampton. Contract and consent. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 379–393.
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- Chandran Kukathas. Liberty. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 534–548.
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- Hugh LaFollette, editor. *Blackwell Guide to Ethical Theory*. Blackwell, Oxford, 2000.
- Robert E. Lane. Capitalist man, socialist man. In Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Fifth series. OUP, Oxford, 1979, pages 57–77.
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- Peter Laslett and W.G. Runciman, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Second series. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1962.
- John Locke. *The Second Treatise of Government*. The Library of Liberal Arts, New York, 1952.
- David Luban. Just war and human rights. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 9:160–81, 1980.

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- Robert Nozick. *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*. Basic Books, Inc., New York, 1974.
- Brendan O’Leary. Symposium on David Miller’s *On Nationality*. *Nations and Nationalism*, 2:407–451, 1996.
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- John E Roemer. *Free to Lose: An Introduction to Marxist Economic Philosophy*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1988.
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- Amarty Sen. Equality of what? In S. M. McMurrin, editor, *The Tanner Lectures on Human Values*, pages 195–220. CUP, Cambridge, 1980.
- Amartya Sen. Liberty & social choice. *Journal of Philosophy*, 80(1):5–28, 1983.
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- Charles Taylor. *Philosophy and the Human Sciences: Philosophical Papers*, volume ii. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1985.
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- Andrew Vincent. *Modern Political Ideologies*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1992.
- Jeremy Waldron. Rights. In Robert E. Goodin and Philip Pettit, editors. *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1993, pages 575–585.
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- Jeff Weintraub. The theory and politics of the public/private distinction. In *Public and Private in Thought and Practice: Perspectives on a Grand Dichotomy*, pages 1–42. Chicago University Press, Chicago, 1997.
- Alan R. White. *Rights*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1984.
- Bernard Williams. *Problems of the Self*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1973. ISBN 0 521 29060 pbk.
- Robert Paul Wolff. *In Defense of Anarchism*. Harper and Row, New York, 1970.
- Richard Wollheim. A paradox in the theory of democracy. In Peter Laslett and W.G. Runciman, editors. *Philosophy, Politics and Society*. Second series. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1962, pages 71–87.

The readings listed in the historical sections combine essential texts by canonical writers and secondary readings pertinent to each writer's work. The list of. Again, the list does not aim to be comprehensive. Although students are not expected to be conversant with all of the works listed, they should be familiar with the leading ideas and concerns in the contemporary literature under most of the subheadings. Appendix. 8; Visions of Politics, vol. 3; Hobbes and Republican Liberty - Leo Strauss, The Political Philosophy of Hobbes - Richard Tuck, Hobbes and Philosophy and Government, 1572-1651. **Locke, First Treatise of Civil Government, 1, 3, 23, 33, 40-48, 56, 58-66, 86-87, 89-94; Second Treatise of Civil Government; A Letter Concerning Toleration. Sociological theory reading list. Joint Doctoral Program in Sociology - The University of Akron and Kent State University. Attached is the reading list for students preparing to take their comprehensive examinations in sociological theory. The attached list has three distinct components: (1) The required readings (see page 3). These are readings that all students taking the exam are expected to read. (2) A listing of classic theorists and contemporary perspectives from which each student. taking the comprehensive theory examination. REQUIRED READING. Calhoun, Craig. 1994. "The Politics of Inside/Out: Queer Theory, Poststructuralism, and a. Sociological. Approach to Sexuality." Dr Ben Saunders Theory of Politics (Pol 203 / Phil 114): 2008-09 ben.saunders@philosophy.ox.ac.uk / b.m.saunders@gmail.com p.1 of 20 Theory of Politics (Politics 203/Philosophy 114) Topics: 1 Equality (alternatives, the metric, relational) p.2 2 Rawls on Justice (original position, difference principle, basic structure) p.4 3 Nozick and Property (left-libertarianism Essay questions and guidance on relevant readings are provided separately. Readings are generally listed in rough order of importance (most important first), except that responses to key readings sometimes follow immediately. The most important readings within each (sub-)topic are asterisked (*). This reading list is meant to help students prepare for their comprehensive exams in political theory. Students need to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of four subfields of political theory on the comprehensive examination. The comprehensive exam is "closed book" (no notes or texts permitted) and taken on campus. In cases where a student fails a question on the comp, she or he may be given the opportunity to retake a portion of the exam. Normally this option is available only if the answers to the other questions are strong. The field is not obligated to offer this option; it is available onl... Reading list for Oxford degree: Theory of Politics. Phil Theory of Politics Michaelmas Term 2009 Dr David Leopold and Dr Adam Swift ON THIS FIRST PAGE ARE BOOKS THAT YOU SHOULD TELL YOUR COLLEGE LIBRARY IT SHOULD HAVE Overviews and Introductions These are books that do not appear on the weekly reading lists but often provide very helpful discussions of the issues covered.