



OXFORD

AN INTRODUCTION TO  
**POLITICAL  
PHILOSOPHY**

REVISED EDITION

JONATHAN WOLFF

# Political Philosophy An Introduction

**Richard G. Stevens**



## **Political Philosophy An Introduction:**

*The Key Texts of Political Philosophy* Thomas L. Pangle, Timothy W. Burns, 2015 This book introduces readers to analytical interpretation of seminal writings and thinkers in the history of political thought including Socrates Plato Aristotle the Bible Thomas Aquinas Machiavelli Bacon Hobbes Locke Montesquieu Rousseau Tocqueville Marx and Nietzsche Chronologically arranged each chapter in the book is devoted to the work of a single thinker The selected texts together engage with 2000 years of debate on fundamental questions which include What is the purpose of political life What is the good life for us as individuals and for us as a political community What is justice What is a right Do human beings have rights What kinds of human virtues are there and which regimes best promote them The difficulty of accessing the texts included in this volume is the result not only of their subtlety but also of the dramatic change in everyday life The authors shed light on the texts vocabulary and complexities of thought and help students understand and weigh the various interpretations of each philosopher's thought Accessible interpretive essays on the greatest texts in the history of political thought from Plato to Nietzsche Includes key passage plus a succinct discussion that glosses the text examines later day interpretations and guides students in forming their own interpretations Allows students to learn from rather than only about each thinker and to apply their thought to the present day

*An Introduction to Political Philosophy* Jonathan Wolff, 2006 The revised edition of this highly successful text provides a clear and accessible introduction to some of the most important questions of political philosophy Organized around major issues Wolff provides the structure that beginners need while also introducing some distinctive ideas of his own

*Political Philosophy* Jason Brennan, 2016-02-09 Most political debate is superficial Just turn on cable news Philosophy is for people who want to understand the deep questions The goal of political philosophy is to determine the standards by which we judge different institutions good or bad just or unjust Some people might think they don't have much need of political philosophy Who cares about wishy washy obtuse notions of justice I'm a pragmatist I just want to know what works But this isn't a way of avoiding political philosophy it's a way of being dogmatic about it Before we can just do what works we have to know what counts as working This book serves as an introduction to some of the major theories of justice to the arguments philosophers have made for and against these theories and ultimately to how to be more thoughtful and rigorous in your own thinking

**Introduction to political philosophy** William Ebenstein, 1972

**An Introduction to Political Philosophy (Routledge Revivals)** A. R. M. Murray, 2010-01-14 First published in 1953 this seminal introduction to political philosophy is intended for both the student of political theory and for the general reader After an introduction which explains the nature and purpose of philosophy Dr Murray provides a critical examination of the principle theories advanced by political philosophers from Plato to Marx paying special attention to contemporary issues The book also makes an attempt to define the essential issues of philosophical significance in contemporary politics with special reference to the conflict between political authority and individual rights and to show how the different moral assumptions

underlying authoritarian and democratic systems of government are ultimately based upon different theories of logic

**Political Philosophy** Richard G. Stevens, 2010-10-18 This book by Richard G Stevens is a comprehensive introduction to the nature of political philosophy It offers definitions of philosophy and politics showing the tension between the two and the origin of political philosophy as a means of resolution of that tension Plato and Aristotle are examined in order to see the search for the best political order Inquiry is then made into political philosophy s new tension brought about by the growth of revealed religion in the Middle Ages It then examines the changes introduced by modernity and gives an overview of postmodern political thought The book covers the most influential philosophers and directs readers to the classics of political philosophy guiding them in studying them It is an approachable introduction to a complex subject not just a history of it It is a point of entry into the subject for students and for others as well

**An Introduction to Political Philosophy** Alexander Rainy Maclean Murray, 1959 **An Introduction to Political Philosophy** Colin Bird, 2019-04-25 An updated comprehensive and thematic introduction to political philosophy enabling readers to reflect critically on a variety of political issues *An Introduction to Political Philosophy* Alexander R. M. Murray, 1953 **An Introduction to Political**

**Philosophy** Alexander Moseley, 2007-03-15 Philosophy underpins political concepts ideals and debates The extent and nature of our rights liberties and responsibilities the role of the state and the best means of its governance are all questions to have been addressed by great philosophers throughout history and questions students of political philosophy must engage with An Introduction to Political Philosophy offers a thorough lucid and stimulating account of the central theories and ideas encountered in political philosophy The text is thematically structured covering the discipline s principal ideologies Statism Realism Liberalism Conservatism Socialism Anarchism and Environmentalism It also offers a brief history of political philosophy and the major political philosophers including Plato Aristotle Locke Rousseau Hobbes Marx and Rawls and valuably concludes with a look at applied political philosophy relating the discipline to contemporary political situations and questions This fascinating book offers a critical overview of one of the central concepts in philosophy encountered by virtually every student of the subject

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