

## *Political Theory Comprehensive Exam List*

*Revised Feb 2018*

*Department of Political Science, University of Florida*

This reading list provides a guide for students preparing for the political theory comprehensive exam. We expect all students to have read the bolded works, and a significant portion of the non-bolded works listed in both sections. We also expect first-field theory students to be familiar with some of the relevant secondary literature for the authors of bolded works.

### Section I: History of Political Thought

- \* Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*
- \* Sophocles, *Antigone*
- \* Aristophanes, *Clouds*
- \* Plato, ***Republic***, *Laws*, ***Apology***, *Crito*, *Gorgias*
- \* Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, ***Politics***
- \* Augustine, *City of God*, *Confessions*
- \* Cicero, *Republic*, *On Duties*, *Laws*
- \* Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* (Treatise on Law)
- \* Machiavelli, ***The Prince***, ***Discourses***
- \* Luther, *Secular Authority*
- \* Calvin, *On God and Political Duty*
- \* More, *Utopia*
- \* Hobbes, ***Leviathan***
- \* Locke, ***Second Treatise of Government***, *A Letter Concerning Toleration*
- \* Montesquieu, *Spirit of the Laws*, *Persian Letters*
- \* Rousseau, ***Discourses and Social Contract***
- \* Constant, "The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with that of the Moderns"
- \* Kant, **"What is Enlightenment?"** **"Perpetual Peace,"**  
*Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*
- \* Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*, *Wealth of Nations*
- \* Burke, ***Reflections on the Revolution in France***
- \* Wollstonecraft, ***A Vindication of the Rights of Woman***
- \* Madison, Hamilton, Jay, ***The Federalist Papers***
- \* Paine, *Common Sense*, *Rights of Man*
- \* Tocqueville, ***Democracy in America***
- \* Thoreau, "Civil Disobedience"
- \* Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, "Lordship and Bondage" in *The*

- Phenomenology of Spirit*
- \* Bentham, *Principles of Morals and Legislation*
  - \* Mill, ***On Liberty***, *On Representative Government*, *On Subjection of Women*, *Utilitarianism*
  - \* Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, *Genealogy of Morals*
  - \* Marx, "**On the Jewish Question**," ***Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844***, "***The Communist Manifesto***," "Thesis on Feuerbach," *The German Ideology*
  - \* Douglas, "What to a Slave is the Fourth of July?"
  - \* Lenin, *Imperialism, State and Revolution*, *What is to Be Done*
  - \* Gramsci, *Prison Notebooks*
  - \* Weber, "**Politics as a Vocation**," *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*,
  - \* Gandhi, *Non-Violent Resistance (Satyagraha)*
  - \* DuBois, ***The Souls of Black Folk***
  - \* Dewey, *The Public and its Problems*
  - \* Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*
  - \* Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*
  - \* Adorno and Horkheimer, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*
  - \* Heidegger, "Letter on Humanism," "The Question Concerning Technology"
  - \* Fanon, ***The Wretched of the Earth***, *Black Skin, White Masks*
  - \* Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*
  - \* Schumpeter, *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy*
  - \* Berlin, *Four Essays on Liberty*
  - \* Hayek, *The Road to Serfdom*
  - \* Arendt, ***The Human Condition***, *On Revolution*
  - \* King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"
  - \* Habermas, ***Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere***
  - \* Rawls, ***Justice as Fairness: A Restatement***, *A Theory of Justice*
  - \* Foucault, ***Discipline and Punish***, *Power/Knowledge*, "Governmentality"

## Section II: Contemporary Theorists and Current Controversies

- \* Giorgio Agamben, *Homo Sacer*
- \* Benjamin Barber, *Strong Democracy*
- \* Charles Beitz, *Political Theory and International Relations*
- \* Seyla Benhabib, *Situating the Self*, *Another Cosmopolitanism*
- \* Wendy Brown, *States of Injury*
- \* Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*
- \* G. A. Cohen, *Rescuing Justice and Equality*

- \* William Connolly, *Identity/Difference*
- \* Robert Dahl, *Democracy and Its Critics*
- \* Jacques Derrida, "Declarations of Independence," "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"
- \* Michel Foucault, "Nietzsche, Genealogy, History," "What is an Author?"
- \* Nancy Fraser, *Justice Interruptus*
- \* Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Truth and Method*
- \* Clifford Geertz, *Interpretation of Cultures*
- \* Raymond Geuss, *Philosophy and Real Politics*
- \* John Gunnell, *Political Theory: Tradition and Interpretation, The Descent of Political Theory*
- \* Jurgen Habermas, *Between Facts and Norms*
- \* Bonnie Honig, *Political Theory and the Displacement of Politics*
- \* Max Horkheimer, "What is Critical Theory?"
- \* George Kateb, *Inner Ocean*
- \* Will Kymlicka, *Multicultural Citizenship*
- \* Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*
- \* Claude Lefort, *Democracy and Political Theory*
- \* Steven Lukes, *Power: A Radical View*
- \* Jean-Francois Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition*
- \* Alasdair MacIntyre, *After Virtue*
- \* CB Macpherson, *The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism*
- \* Jane Mansbridge, *Beyond Adversary Democracy*
- \* David Miller, *On Nationality*
- \* Charles Mills, *The Racial Contract*
- \* Robert Nozick, *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*
- \* Michael Oakeshott, "Rationalism in Politics"
- \* Susan Okin, *Justice, Gender, and the Family*
- \* Carole Pateman, *Participation and Democratic Theory, The Sexual Contract*
- \* Hanna Pitkin, *The Concept of Representation*
- \* Philip Pettit, *Republicanism*
- \* J.G.A. Pocock, *The Machiavellian Moment, "Languages and Their Implications"*
- \* Jacques Rancière, *Disagreement*
- \* Richard Rorty, *Contingency, Irony, and Solidarity, Philosophy and Social Hope*
- \* Michael Sandel, *Liberalism and the Limits of Justice*
- \* Judith Shklar, *American Citizenship: The Quest for Inclusion*
- \* Quentin Skinner, *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought,*

- Liberty Before Liberalism*, "Meaning and Understanding in the History of Ideas"
- \* Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History*, "What is Political Philosophy?" *Persecution and the Art of Writing*
  - \* Charles Taylor, "Interpretation and the Sciences of Man," "Neutrality in Political Science," "The Politics of Recognition," *Sources of the Self*
  - \* James Tully, *Strange Multiplicity*, "Political Philosophy as a Critical Activity"
  - \* Max Weber, *The Methodology of the Social Sciences*
  - \* Michael Walzer, *Spheres of Justice*
  - \* Bernard Williams, *Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy*
  - \* Sheldon Wolin, *Politics and Vision*, "Political Theory as a Vocation"
  - \* Iris Marion Young, *Justice and the Politics of Difference*