

## I. Ancient and Medieval Political Thought

### **1. Athenian Tragic and Comic Poetry**

Aeschylus, *Orestia*

Sophocles, *Oedipus Tyrannus*, *Oedipus at Colonnus*, *Antigone*

Euripides, *Bacchae*, *Trojan Women* and *Medea*

Aristophanes, *Clouds*

### **2. Thucydides**

*History of the Peloponnesian War*

### **3. Plato**

*Republic*; *Laws*; *Apology*; *Crito*; *Gorgias*; *Symposium*

### **4. Aristotle**

*Nicomachean Ethics*; *Politics*

### **5. Cicero**

*De Legibus* [*On the Laws*]; *De Officiis* [*On Duties*].

### **6. Augustine of Hippo**

*City of God Against the Pagans*

### **7. Thomas Aquinas**

*Summa Theologiae*, I, qq. 2, 12, 20, 75, 79, 85, 92, 96, 98; I-II, qq. 3,5,21,62,81,90-97 (Treatise on Law), 100,105, 109; II-II, qq.

10,11,12,40,42,57,60,64,66,69,77,78,94,110,150,152,154; III, qu. 8; Supplement qu.52

## II. Modern Political Thought

### **8. Niccolò Machiavelli**

*Of Principalities*; *Discourses on Livy*

### **9. Thomas Hobbes**

*Leviathan*

### **10. Baruch Spinoza**

*Political Treatise*

### **11. John Locke**

*First Treatise of Civil Government*; *Second Treatise of Civil Government*; *A Letter Concerning Toleration*

### **12. David Hume**

*A Treatise of Human Nature*, Book III, Parts I and II; “Of the Original Contract” in *Essays*

**13. Jean-Jacques Rousseau**

*Discourse on the Sciences and Arts; Discourse on the Origin of Inequality; On The Social Contract*

**14. Immanuel Kant**

“Idea for a Universal History,” “What is Enlightenment?,” “Toward Perpetual Peace,” “On the Common Saying: ‘That may be correct in theory, but never in practice’”

**15. Publius and the Antifederalists**

*The Federalist Papers and Essays of “Brutus,” nos. 1-4*

**16. Edmund Burke**

*Reflections on the Revolution in France; “Speech on Fox’s East India Bill;” and “Speech in Opening the Impeachment of Warren Hastings”*

**17. Alexis de Tocqueville**

*Democracy in America*

**18. John Stuart Mill**

*On Liberty; On Representative Government; On the Subjection of Women*

**19. Karl Marx**

*Manifesto of the Communist Party; Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts; The German Ideology*

**20. Friedrich Nietzsche**

*Beyond Good and Evil; Genealogy of Morals; “The Uses and Dangers of History for Life” from *Untimely Meditations**

**21. Max Weber**

“Politics as a Vocation;” “Science as a Vocation;” *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*

**III. Contemporary Political Thought**

**22. Sigmund Freud**

*Civilization and its Discontents; Future of an Illusion*

**23. W.E.B. Du Bois**

*The Souls of Black Folk*

**24. John Dewey**

*The Public and Its Problems* and “The Ethics of Democracy”

**25. Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno**

*Dialectic of Enlightenment*

**26. Leo Strauss**

*Natural Right and History*

**27. Hannah Arendt**

*The Human Condition* and *The Origins of Totalitarianism*

**28. Frantz Fanon**

*The Wretched of the Earth*

**29. Michel Foucault**

*Discipline and Punish* and *Society Must be Defended*

**30. Edward Said**

*Orientalism*

**31. Jürgen Habermas**

*The Inclusion of the Other*

**32. John Rawls**

*A Theory of Justice* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) and *Political Liberalism* (1996 edition with the “Reply to Habermas”)

**33. Seyla Benhabib**

*Situating the Self: Gender, Community and Postmodernism in Contemporary Ethics*

Appendix: Suggested Secondary Sources

This section is not a comprehensive bibliography of secondary sources, nor does it reflect as single “school” or approach to the study of political thought. The following short list of classic scholarly works is intended to help you set the figures on the exam list in different contexts and to give you a sense of the different methodological approaches that scholars of political theory have taken.

*Ancient*

Peter Euben, *Tragedy and Political Theory*

Martha Nussbaum, *The Fragility of Goodness*

Josiah Ober, *Political Dissent in Democratic Athens*

Leo Strauss, *City and Man*

Sara Monoson, *Plato’s Democratic Entanglements*

Anthony Everitt, *Cicero*

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo*  
John Bowlin, *Contingency and Fortune in Aquinas' Ethics*

*Modern*

Sheldon Wolin, *Politics and Vision*, revised and expanded ed.  
Charles Taylor, *Sources of The Self*  
Quentin Skinner, *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought*, 2 vols.  
J.G.A. Pocock, *The Machiavellian Moment*  
Peter Gay, *The Enlightenment*, 2 vols.  
Judith Shklar, *Political Thought and Political Thinkers*  
Leszek Kolakowski, *Main Currents of Marxism*  
John Rawls, *Lectures on the History of Political Philosophy*

*Methodological Approaches to Political Theory*

Isaiah Berlin, "Does Political Theory Still Exist?" in *The Proper Study of Mankind*  
William Connolly, "Essentially Contested Concepts in Politics" in *The Terms of Political Discourse*  
Michael Freeden, *Ideologies and Political Theory*  
Leo Strauss, "What is Political Philosophy?" and "Persecution and the Art of Writing" in *What is Political Philosophy?*  
James Tully, ed., *Meaning and Context: Quentin Skinner and his Critics*  
Sheldon Wolin, "Political Theory as a Vocation." *APSR* 63 (1969), 1062-82.