

**Yale University  
Department of Political Science**

Contemporary Political Theory Reading List  
2010

*Students are required to read all starred texts  
as well as the remaining texts in any five subsections.*

**Democracy**

Kenneth Arrow, Social Choice and Individual Values (Yale University Press, 1951). The technical parts, particularly chapter 5 of this work, are difficult to follow and not required. A clear exposition of the logic of Arrow's theorem can be found in ch. 14 of Luce and Raiffa, Games and Decisions. A nontechnical account by Arrow, also recommended, "Public and private values," is in Sidney Hook, ed., Human Values and Economic Policy, pp. 3-21.

Anthony Downs, An Economic Theory of Democracy (Harper and Row, 1957).

Bruce Ackerman and James Fishkin, Deliberation Day (Yale University Press, 2004).

\*Robert Dahl, Democracy and its Critics (Yale University Press, 1991) chs. 1-2, 5, 6-21.

\*Robert Dahl, A Preface to Democratic Theory (University of Chicago Press, 1953).

\*Benjamin Barber, Strong Democracy (University of California Press, 1980), chs. 1, 4-7, 10.

Douglas Rae, "Decision rules and individual values in constitutional choice," American Political Science Review, vol. 63, no. 1 (1969), pp. 4-56.

Norman Schofield, "Is majority rule special?" in Richard Neimi and Herbert Weisberg, eds., Probability Models of Collective Decision-Making, pp. 60-80.

Ian Shapiro, Democracy's Place (Cornell University Press, 1996), chs. 2, 4.

\*Ian Shapiro, The State of Democratic Theory (Princeton University Press, 2003).

Ian Shapiro and Hacker-Cordon, Democracy's Value (Cambridge University Press, 1999), chs. 2-4, 9-10.

Ian Shapiro and Hacker-Cordon, Democracy's Edges (Cambridge University Press, 1999), chs. 2, 6-12, 15.

Roberto Unger, False Necessity (Cambridge University Press, 1987), ch. 5.

William Riker, Liberalism Against Populism (Freeman, 1982), chs. 1-7, 10.

Gerry Mackie, Democracy Defended (Cambridge University Press, 2003) chs. 1-6, 9-10, 14-15

\*Dennis Mueller, Public Choice III (Cambridge University Press, 2003), chs. 1-3, 4 (omit part B), 5-8, 10-21, 14.

Joseph Schumpeter, *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy* [1942] (George, Allen and Unwin, 1976).

\*Adam Przeworski, Democracy and the Market (Cambridge University Press, 1991), chs. 1, 4.

Carole Pateman, *Participation and Democratic Theory* (Cambridge University Press, 1970).

## Justice

\*John Rawls, A Theory of Justice (Harvard University Press, 1971), ch. 1, secs. 1-4, 8; ch. 2, secs. 11-17; ch. 3, secs. 20-27, 29-30; ch. 4, sec. 40; ch. 5, secs. 41-43; ch. 8, sec. 79.

John Rawls, Political Liberalism, (Columbia University Press), lectures 1, 3, 4, 6.

\*John Rawls, The Law of Peoples (Harvard University Press, 1999)

John Harsanyi, "Can the maximin principle serve as a basis for morality? A critique of John Rawls's theory." American Political Science Review, 69:2, 594-606.

G.A. Cohen, "Where the action is: On the site of distributive justice," Phil.& Public Affairs 26, 1997, 3-30.

Dennis Mueller, Public Choice III (Cambridge University Press, 2003), chs. 19-24.

Bruce Ackerman, Social Justice in the Liberal State (Yale University Press, 1980), chs. 1, 2, 4-6, 8-11.

\*Michael Walzer, Spheres of Justice (Basic Books, 1983), chs. 1-5, 7, 9, 11-13.

John Roemer, Theories of Distributive Justice (Harvard University Press, 1996), chs 1, 5,7,8.

G.A. Cohen, "Incentives, inequality & community," The Tanner Lectures on Human Values (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press)

\*Ian Shapiro, Democratic Justice (Yale University Press, 1999).

Brian Barry, Justice as Impartiality (Oxford University Press, 1995), parts I & II.

\* David Held, *The Global Covenant. The Social Democratic Alternative to the Washington Consensus.* (Polity Press, 2004).

Pogge, Thomas. *World Poverty and Human Rights* (Polity Press, 2002)

\* Charles Beitz, *Political Theory and International Relations* (Princeton, 1999)

## Legitimacy

\*Jurgen Habermas, Between Facts and Norms, (MIT, 1996), secs. 2, 7, 8, 9.

\*Jurgen Habermas, Theory of Communicative Action (Beacon, 1981), vol. I, secs. I, II; vol. II, secs. VI, VIII.

W. Connolly, "Appearance and reality in politics," in Connolly, Appearance and Reality in Politics (Cambridge University Press, 1981), pp. 63-89.

Roberto Unger, Social Theory: Its Situation and its Task (Cambridge University Press, 1987), chs. 1-6, 8.

Max Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism (Scribners, 1992).

Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation," in Gerth and Mills, eds., From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology (Oxford, 1958).

\*Michel Foucault, "What is Enlightenment?" in The Foucault Reader, Rabinow, ed. (Pantheon, 1984).

\*Michael Oakeshott, "Rationalism in politics," and "Political education," in Rationalism in Politics (Basic Books, 1962), pp. 1-37.

Luhman, The Differentiation of Society (Columbia University Press, 1982), part II.

\*Seyla Benhabib, Critique, Norm and Utopia. (Columbia University Press, 1986), Part II.

\*Carl Schmitt, The Crisis of Parliamentary Democracy (1923) [MIT Press, 1988]

Carl Schmitt, The Concept of the Political (1919) [MIT Press, 1996]

Jacques Derrida, "Declarations of Independence," The New Political Science 15 (1986)

## Equality

\*Bernard Williams, "The idea of equality," in Peter Laslett and W.G. Runciman eds., Philosophy, Politics and Society (Blackwell, 1958), second series, pp. 110-131.

Douglas Rae et. al, Equalities (Harvard University Press, 1981), chs. 4-5, \*6.

John Roemer, Equality of Opportunity (Harvard University Press, 2000) \*chs. 1-3.

\*Amartya Sen, Inequality Reexamined (Harvard University Press/Russell Sage, 1992).

Ronald Dworkin, "What is equality? Part I: Equality of welfare," Philosophy and Public Affairs, vol. 10, no. 3, (Summer 1981), pp. 185-246.

\*Ronald Dworkin, "What is equality? Part II: Equality of resources," Philosophy and Public Affairs, vol. 10, no. 4, (Fall 1981), pp. 283-345.

G.A. Cohen, "Self-ownership, world ownership and equality, part I," in Frank Lucash, ed., Justice and Equality Here and Now (Cornell University Press, 1988), p. 108-35.

\*G.A. Cohen, "Self-ownership, world ownership and equality, part II," Social Philosophy and Policy, vol. 3, no. 2 (Spring 1986), pp. 77-96.

G.A. Cohen, "On the currency of egalitarian justice," Ethics, vol. 99, no. 4 (July 1989), pp. 906-44.

\*Nancy Fraser, "From Redistribution to Recognition? Dilemmas of Justice in a Postsocialist Age," Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflection on the Postsocialist Condition, ch. 1.

Ian Shapiro, Democracy's Place, ch. 3.

Susan Okin, Justice, Gender, and the Family (Basic Books, 1989), ch. 8.

Catharine MacKinnon, Toward a Feminist Theory of the State (Harvard University Press, 1989, part II).

\*Iris Young, Justice and the Politics of Difference (Princeton University Press)

Carole Pateman, *The Sexual Contract* (Stanford, 1988)

## Freedom

\*Hannah Arendt, The Human Condition (University of Chicago Press, 1957).

\*Hannah Arendt, *On Revolution* (Viking, 1963)

\*Isaiah Berlin, "Two concepts of liberty," in Berlin, Four Essays on Liberty (Oxford, 1958).

Gerald C. MacCallum, Jr, "Negative and Positive Freedom," Philosophy, Politics and Society (Fourth Series), ed by Peter Laslett, W.G. Runciman and Quentin Skinner (Oxford: Blackwell, 1972), pp. 174-93.

\*Joseph Raz, The Morality of Freedom (Oxford University Press, 1986), chs. 1-4, 7-8, 11, 14-15.

Robert Nozick, Anarchy, State and Utopia (Basic Books, 1974), chs. 1-5, 7, pp. 149-64, 167-231.

\*G.A. Cohen, Self-Ownership, Freedom, and Equality (Cambridge University Press, 1995), ch. 6.

\*Judith Shklar, "The liberalism of fear," in Nancy Rosenblum, ed., Liberalism and the Moral Life (Harvard University Press, 1987).

Stephen Holmes, "Precommitment and the Paradox of Democracy," in Passions and Constraint: On the Theory of Liberal Democracy (Chicago University Press, 1995).

Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom* (Anchor Books, 2000)

Philippe van Parijs, Real Freedom for All (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1995).

Sheldon Wolin, *Politics and Vision* (new and revised edition, 2004)

### **Identity/Diversity**

\*Benedict Anderson Imagined Communities (Verso, 1983).

Alasdair MacIntyre, "Epistemological crises, dramatic narrative and the philosophy of science," The Monist, vol. 60, (1977), pp. 453-72.

Charles Larmore, *Patterns of Moral Complexity* (Cambridge, 1987)

\*Bernard Williams, Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy (Harvard University Press, 1987), chs. 1-3.

Richard Rorty, Contingency, Irony, Solidarity (Cambridge University Press, 1989), chs. 1-3, \*ch. 4.

\*Michael Walzer, Interpretation and Social Criticism (Harvard University Press, 1987).

\*Alasdair MacIntyre, After Virtue, 2d ed. (University of Notre Dame Press, 1984), chs. 1-6, 9-12, 14-18.

\*Jacques Derrida, On Cosmopolitanism and Forgiveness (Routledge, 1999)

Judith Butler, Feminism and the Subversion of Identity (Routledge, 1999).

Charles Taylor, Sources of the Self (Harvard University Press, 1989), Part I.

\*Charles Taylor, Multiculturalism and the Politics of Recognition (Princeton University Press, 1991).

\*Will Kymlicka, Multicultural Citizenship (Oxford University Press, 1995).

Rogers Smith, Stories of Peoplehood: The Politics and Morals of Political Membership (Cambridge University Press, 2003).

\*James Tully, Strange Multiplicities (Cambridge, 1995)

\*Seyla Benhabib, Situating the Self (Polity Press, 1992), Part I.

\*Seyla Benhabib, The Claims of Culture. Equality and Diversity in the Global Era. (Princeton, 2002), chs. 1, 2 and 5.

Brian Barry Culture and Equality: An Egalitarian Critique of Multiculturalism (Polity/Harvard, 2000).

\*Jürgen Habermas, The Inclusion of the Other (MIT Press, 1998), chs. 4 and 9.

Mahmood Mamdani, Citizen and Subject (Princeton, 1996)

Donald Horowitz, Ethnic Groups in Conflict (University of California Press, 1986), ch. 1, parts III and IV.

Seyla Benhabib, ed. *Democracy and Difference. Contesting the Boundaries of the Political*, chs. By Benhabib, Habermas, Wolin, Young and Mouffe (Princeton, 1999)

## Power

Nelson Polsby, Community Power and Political Theory, 2d ed. (Yale University Press, 1980).

\*John Gaventa, Power and Powerlessness (University of Illinois Press, 1980).

Douglas Rae, "Knowing power," in Ian Shapiro and Grant Reeher, eds., Power, Inequality and Democratic Politics (Westview Press, 1989), pp. 17-49.

John Roemer, A General Theory of Class and Exploitation (Harvard University Press, 1982), chs. 1-4.

Nancy Folbre, "Exploitation comes home: a critique of the Marxian theory of family labor," Cambridge Journal of Economics, vol. 6, no. 4 (1982), pp. 317-29.

\*Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish (Vintage, 1979).

T. W. Adorno and Max Horkheimer, Dialectic of Enlightenment (Verso, 1998).

Ian Shapiro and Alexander Wendt, "The difference that realism makes: social science and the politics of consent," Politics and Society, vol. 20, no. 2 (June 1991), pp. 197-223.

\*Max Weber, "Science as a Vocation," in Gerth and Mills, eds., From Max Weber.

\*Clarissa Hayward, Defacing Power (Cambridge University Press, 2000).

## Institutions and Representation

\*Ronald Dworkin, Law's Empire (Harvard University Press, 1986), chs. 1-7.

Robert Inman, "Markets, Governments and the 'new' political economy," Handbook of Public Economics, vol. II, ed. by Alan Auerbach and Martin Feldstein, pp. 647-777.

\*Albert Hirschmann, Exit, Voice and Loyalty (Harvard University Press, 1970).

Mancur Olson, The Logic of Collective Action (Harvard University Press, 1965).

\*Bernard Manin, *Principles of Representative Government* (Cambridge, 1997)

Anne Philips, *The Politics of Presence* (Oxford, 1998)

\*Iris Marion Young, "Deferring Group Representation," in *Ethnicity and Group Rights*, ed. Ian Shapiro and Will Kymlicka (New York: New York University Press, 1997), 349-376.

Jane Mansbridge, "Should Blacks Represent Blacks and Women Represent Women? A Contingent 'Yes'," *The Journal of Politics* 61 (August 1999): 628-657.

Michael Sandel, Democracy's Discontent (Harvard University Press, 1992).

Philip Pettit, Republicanism: A Theory of Freedom and Government (Oxford University Press 1997).

Thomas Schelling, Choice and Consequences (Harvard University Press, 1984), chs. 3-4.

Charles E. Lindblom, Politics and Markets (Basic Books, 1977).

\*Bruce Ackerman, We, The People (Harvard University Press, 1992), chs. 1, 7, 9-11.

\*Jürgen Habermas, The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere (MIT Press, 1989).

\*Jon Elster, Sour Grapes (Cambridge University Press, 1983).

Roberto Unger, What Should Legal Analysis be Like (Verso, 1996).

Seyla Benhabib, *The Rights of Others* (Cambridge 2004), Introduction, chs, 1, 2, 3 and 5.