A Short History of Western Political Thought

This book brings together three recent talks given by John Dunn in China: two full lectures, and one shorter talk followed by the transcription of an extended Q&A session with some eminent Chinese political philosophers and historians of political thought. These three chapters are followed by an intellectual-biographical interview with Dunn. Each of the chapters bears some relevance to Chinese political thought or at least pursues a general East meets West theme. The chapters can be read in any order, although they present some common themes. Li Shi is Professor of political thought in the School of International Studies in Renmin University of China. She wrote four books on western political philosophy, translated Thomas Hobbes Behemoth into Chinese, and published more than 60 articles on academic journals. She invited Professor John Dunn from Cambridge University to China in 2019, who gave three important academic lectures in Renmin University of China.

The Foundations of Modern Political Thought: Volume 1, The Renaissance

The History of Islamic Political Thought offers a full description and an interpretation of political philosophy from early Islam to the current age of Fundamentalism (622 AD to 2000 AD). Antony Black takes the same approach as scholars usually do for the history of Western political thought, examining the mentality, cultural milieu, and political background of thinkers and statesmen. He covers the relationship of politics to religion, law, ethics, philosophy, and statecraft, as expressed through treatises, occasional writings, official rhetoric, popular slogans, and other evidence of how people thought about authority and order.

East Asian Perspectives on Political Legitimacy

"This book will benefit political theorists and philosophers interested in the history of political thought, poverty, or distributive justice, as well as nontheorists. Sharon K. Vaughan is assistant professor of political science at Morehouse College."--BOOK JACKET.

Politics and Vision

The significance of political thought cannot be overemphasized. The task of understanding the deeper implications of the present situation and the future planning can be assisted by a careful study of political thought of the ages. The study of political...
chapters are organised around a wide range of key themes, covering everything from Absolute Government and Revolutionary Political Thought to Politics and Freedom and Theories of Civil Disobedience. This new edition concludes with an Epilogue that considers the challenges posed to the history of Western political thought by the perspectives of post-colonialism and post-modernism. The use of boxes throughout the book to explain key thinkers in more detail, as well as the author's ability to express complex ideas in clear and jargon-free language, makes this the perfect text for helping students to understand the key debates, issues and continuities in the long history of political ideas. For undergraduate and postgraduate students studying courses on the history of political thought and theory, this is an indispensable guide. New to this Edition: - Expanded material on the history of international relations thinking, race consciousness, diversity and gender politics - A completely new Epilogue which focuses on a discussion of post-colonialism and post-modernism in relation to political theory - Additional ‘Thinker’ boxes, alongside revised and updated suggestions for further reading

The History of Islamic Political Thought

First published in 1987. The theory that political obligation and authority are derived from the consent of citizens is commonly accepted in the history of Western political thought. It is expressed in the famous assertion of the American Declaration of Independence that governments derive 'their just powers from the consent of the governed' and in the constitutions of some Western powers. This book provides the first systematic and comprehensive restatement and defence of consent theory since the 19th Century. It distinguishes consent from contract theory, examines what the actual consent of citizens can consist in and what place it must have in liberal democratic theory. The consent theory's relationship with ethics is explored and the major objections to the theory are countered. The author points to some political reforms which would increase the proportion of citizens in liberal democracies whose consent places them under political obligation. The book provides an overview of the current state of the consent theory of political obligation and authority.

A History of Western Political Theory

This Volume Ii Of Western Political Thought Discusses Various Currents Of Political Thought From Utilitarianism To Pluralism And Nazism. It Includes Political Thinkers From Bentham To Bertrand Russell, From Nineteenth Century To Present Day. While The Subject Matter Has Been Derived From Standard Original Works, It Has Been Narrated In An Analytical Style And Discussed From An Integral Standpoint. At The End Of Each Chapter Actual Examination Questions Of Various Universities Have Been Given So That The Student May Exercise For The Examination. Among Dozens Of Books By Indian And Western Authors On This Subject, The Present Book Claims To Be More To The Point, Concise And Providing Answer To Every Question Asked In Various University Examinations. Thus, The Book Has Been Prepared As An Ideal Textbook For Post-Graduate Students Of Political Science In All Indian Universities. Besides, It Will Serve As A Ready Reference Book For The Teachers.

Concepts and History: John Dunn's Lectures in China

Western Political Theory in the Face of the Future

This brief narrative survey of political thought over the past two millennia explores key ideas that have shaped Western political traditions. Beginning with the Ancient Greeks' classical emphasis on politics as an independent sphere of activity, the book goes on to consider the medieval and early modern Christian views of politics and its central role in providing spiritual leadership. Concluding with a discussion of present-day political thought, W. M. Spellman explores the return to the ancient understanding of political life as a more autonomous sphere, and one that doesn't relate to anything beyond the physical world.

Setting the work of major and lesser-known political philosophers within its historical context, the book offers a balanced and considered overview of the topic, taking into account the religious values, inherited ideas and social settings of the writers. Assuming no prior knowledge and written in a highly accessible style, A Short History of Western Political Thought is ideal for those seeking to develop an understanding.
Economic interpretations of history are irrevocably identified with the name of Charles A. Beard. This is mainly due to his early book *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States* (1913). Yet, in Beard's later work, *The Economic Basis of Politics* (1922), he articulates the main principles of his method and argues for its applicability to understanding of current events. In this brief survey of Western political philosophy and contemporary constitutional arrangements, Beard concludes that it is well established doctrine that "there is a vital relation between the forms of state and the distribution of property, revolutions in the state being usually the results of contests over property." In advancing this axiom, Beard responds to charges that he was a "Marxist" by constructing an interpretation of Western political philosophy and history that draws a firm distinction between his economic interpretation of history and Marx's historical materialism. Beard traces the origins of his own method to the works of Aristotle, Machiavelli, Harrington, Locke, and Montesquieu. This view of political theory and political theorists stands in sharp contrast to the view prevailing among many contemporary political philosophers, who insist that political theory must somehow transcend history and rise above ordinary politics to count as theory. Beard's observations on the nature and tradition of Western political philosophy provide an entrée into New World political thought, which many academic political philosophers have long regarded as something less than "political theory." In contrast, Beard regards the development and application of the method of economic interpretation to be the greatest contribution of American political thought to the tradition of Western political theory. In his surveys of thinkers such as Madison, Webster, and Calhoun, Beard links American political thought to the Western tradition of economic interpretation, which undergirds both "liberalism" and "republicanism." The present-day relevance of this important volume will be evident to all social scientists."
John Dunn's Western Political Theory in the Face of the Future demonstrates that the major traditions of thought from which the political values of the modern West have emerged are all, in the light of recent world history, in crucial respects incoherent or flawed. This second edition underlines the drastic changes in the challenges which face the world, in the wake of the Soviet Union's collapse and the end of the Cold War, stressing the ever tighter linking of the global economy with the ecology in which we live, and the problems which this poses for the survival of civilisation.

Western political thought in dialogue with Asia
A book about how European colonists in Australia represented the Indigenous peoples they found there, and the tasks of governing them within the terms of Western political thought. It emphasises how the framework of ideas drawn from the traditions of Western political thought was employed in the imperial government of Indigenous peoples.

The Political Philosophy of Niccolò Machiavelli
To do political theory is to tell a story about human beings and their communities. In this witty and elegant book, Michael Brint provides a brilliant reading of some of the greatest stories told in the history of Western political theory. The unifying theme is the issue of differences and the conflicts they generate. Brint's targets are those thin

Routledge Library Editions

Poverty, Justice, and Western Political Thought
All students of Western political thought encounter Niccolò Machiavelli's work. Nevertheless, his writing continues to puzzle scholars and readers who are uncertain how to deal with the seeming paradoxes they encounter. 'The Political Philosophy of Niccolò Machiavelli' is a clear account of Machiavelli's thought, major theories and central ideas. It critically engages with his work in a new way, one not based on the problematic Cambridge-school approach. Geared towards the specific requirements of students who need to reach a sound understanding of Machiavelli's ideas, it is the ideal companion to the study of this influential and challenging philosopher.

History of Western Political Thought
From Plato to post-Second World War British and American political thinkers, this textbook covers the entire range of Western political thoughts. This book thoroughly discusses the historical background of the ideas of political thinkers. For each political philosopher, the author has described the philosophy in detail, followed by an unbiased evaluation at the end of the chapter. Western Political Thought will meet the needs of the students of political science, history, philosophy and sociology. It will appeal to the students who have no previous exposure to the subject as the chapters require no previous understanding of the thinkers and their works. It will also serve as a useful and steady companion for UGC NET and UPSC aspirants.

Key Features:
* Critical analysis of the philosophy of each of the thinkers in light of its applicability and effect on modern political tradition
* Elaborate discussion of the history of the period that served as a background of the political ideas
* Comprehensive study, based mostly on original texts rather than second references
* Each chapter aided by self-test review questions to assess critical understanding of the topics

The Economic Basis of Politics
This Book Covers Western Political Thought From The Very Beginning To Karl Marx. It Has Been Written In A Simple And Lucid Style. Controversial Matters Have Been Dealt With In Such A Way That Scientific And Objective Conclusions May Be Drawn. The Book Has Been Planned As An Ideal Textbook For The Students And A Reference Book For The Teachers.
A History of Western Political Thought is an energetic and lucid account of the most important political thinkers and the enduring themes of the last two and a half millennia. Written with students of the history of political thought in mind, the book:

- traces the development of political thought from Ancient Greece to the late twentieth century
- focuses on individual thinkers and texts
- includes 40 biographies of key political thinkers
- offers original views of theorists and highlights those which may have been unjustly neglected
- develops the wider themes of political thought and the relations between thinkers over time.

Given the rise of globalization and coinciding increase in cultural clashes among diverse nations, it has become eminently clear to scholars of political thought that there exists a critical gap in the knowledge of non-Western philosophies and how Western thought has been influenced by them. This gap has led to a severely diminished capacity of both state and nonstate actors to communicate effectively on a global scale. The political theorists, area scholars, and intellectual historians gathered here by Takashi Shogimen and Cary J. Nederman examine the exchange of political ideas between Europe and Asia from the Middle Ages to the early twentieth century. They establish the need for comparative political thought, showing that in order to fully grasp the origins and achievements of the West, historians of political thought must incorporate Asian political discourse and ideas into their understanding. By engaging in comparative studies, this volume proves the necessity of a cross-disciplinary approach in guiding the study of the global history of political thought.

Performing Political Theory

Political philosophy is the study of the fundamental questions about the state, government, politics, property, law and the enforcement of a legal code by authority: what they are, why they are needed, what makes a government legitimate, what rights and freedoms it should protect and why, what form it should take and why, what the law is, and what duties citizens owe to a legitimate government, if any, and when it may be legitimately overthrown. Western political thought has been dominated, since the beginning, with an interest in the procedures by which political power is applied. Western political thought is an extremely important subject of study both for university as well as for competitive examinations. It is equally important for all those interested in politics. Aim of this book is to provide to our readers innovative and important aspects of this essential subject at different levels. In selection of the material care has been exercised to confirm to the course contents. Efforts have been made to include readers friendly essays. The present book provides general history necessary for the comprehension of political philosophers relating their works and contributions to the western political thought. The book traverses political thought down from antiquity, the middle ages through the renaissance to the modern period in a lucid manner. The book is useful for students, teachers, researchers, historians' politicians and general readers.

Die neue Wissenschaft der Politik

This book examines the performative role of influential thinkers in the history of modern Western political thought. The case studies examine influential political philosophers who saw their writing role 'performatively', as an exercise in pedagogy designed to generate a new type of political following among their readers. Machiavelli, Mill and Nietzsche wrote classic works in political theory (The Prince, On Liberty, Genealogy of Morals) to reform and reshape their readers' ability to think and act politically. Thinkers become performative through what they write in their public performance; and contemporary academic teachers can use this to great pedagogical effect in helping students 'get the point' of political theorising. This book examines how a small sample of classic theoretical performers wrote their remarkable public works. John Uhr draws on neglected or forgotten lessons on performative writing from past masters of literary criticism like Lord Shaftesbury, R G Collingwood and John Dewey, all of whom can help those now teaching the history of modern political thought to enable students to learn the performance of politics acted out by modernising thinkers capable of writing in ways similar to Machiavelli, Mill and Nietzsche.

Women in Western Political Thought

This book examines the role of women in Western political thought. The book is divided into three parts: the history of political thought, the role of women in politics, and the implications for contemporary political thought. The history of political thought provides a context for understanding the role of women, while the role of women in politics examines the ways in which women have been included or excluded from political processes. The implications for contemporary political thought explore the ways in which the study of women in political thought can inform and challenge our understanding of political life today.
In this groundbreaking work, Ellen Meiksins Wood rewrites the history of political theory. She traces the development of the Western tradition from classical antiquity through to the Middle Ages in the perspective of social history—a significant departure not only from the standard abstract history of ideas but also from other contextual methods. Treating canonical thinkers as passionately engaged human beings, Wood examines their ideas not simply in the context of political languages but as creative responses to the social relations and conflicts of their time and place. She identifies a distinctive relation between property and state in Western history and shows how the canon, while largely the work of members or clients of dominant classes, was shaped by complex interactions among proprietors, labourers and states. Western political theory, Wood argues, owes much of its vigour, and also many ambiguities, to these complex and often contradictory relations. From the Ancient Greek polis of Plato, Aristotle, Aeschylus and Sophocles, through the Roman Republic of Cicero and the Empire of St Paul and St Augustine, to the medieval world of Averroes, Thomas Aquinas and William of Ockham, Citizens to Lords offers a rich, dynamic exploration of thinkers and ideas that have indelibly stamped our modern world.

History of Western Political Thought