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Winning Solutions Rousseau Perfection and Disharmony in the Thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau Rousseau, Nietzsche, and the Image of the Human On the Social Contract Rousseau and the Politics of Ambiguity The Rousseauian Mind Rousseau, Nature, and the Problem of the Good Life Lessons on Rousseau The Social Contract, Or Principles of Political Right Rousseau and Critical Theory Rousseau's Social Contract Language, Subjectivity, and Freedom in Rousseau's Moral Philosophy Rousseau's God Rousseau and the Problem of Human Relations Rousseau Today Thinking with Rousseau A Reinterpretation of Rousseau Rousseau and Freedom Economics, Accounting and the True Nature of Capitalism Frameworks of Time in Rousseau Rousseau's Critique of Science Jean-Jacques Rousseau The Challenge of Rousseau Jean-Jacques Rousseau Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Human nature and history Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the 'Well-Ordered Society' Redemptive Change Hobbes and Rousseau Nietzsche Contra Rousseau Rousseau on Education, Freedom, and Judgment Jean-Jacques Rousseau Locke and Rousseau Cambridge Companion to Rousseau's Social Contract Politics and Vision The Myth of Religious Violence Constitutions and the Classics Machiavelli, Hobbes, and Rousseau The Social Contract The Case against Democracy

Winning Solutions 2012-12-06

this book provides the mathematical tools and problem solving experience needed to successfully compete in high level problem solving competitions each section presents important background information and then provides a variety of worked examples and exercises to help bridge the gap between what the reader may already know and what is required for high level competitions answers or sketches of the solutions are given for all exercises

Rousseau 2006-04-24

rousseau is often portrayed as an educational and social reformer whose aim was to increase individual freedom in this volume david gauthier examines rousseau s evolving notion of freedom where he focuses on a single quest can freedom and the independent self be regained rousseau s first answer is given in emile where he seeks to create a self sufficient individual neither materially nor psychologically enslaved to others his second is in the social contract where he seeks to create a citizen who identifies totally with his community experiencing his dependence on it only as a dependence on himself rousseau implicitly recognized the failure of these solutions his third answer is one of the main themes of the confessions and reveries where he is made for a love that merges the selves of the lovers into a single psychologically sufficient unity that makes each better than free but is this response a chimaera

Perfection and Disharmony in the Thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2005-10-06

in perfection and disharmony in the thought of jean jacques rousseau jonathan marks offers an interpretation of the philosopher s thought and its place in the contemporary debate between liberals and communitarians against prevailing views he argues that rousseau s thought revolves around the natural perfection of a naturally disharmonious being at the foundation of rousseau s thought he finds a natural teleology that takes account of and seeks to harmonize conflicting ends the rousseau who emerges from this interpretation is a radical critic of liberalism who is nonetheless more cautious about protecting individual freedom than his milder communitarian successors marks elaborates on the challenge that rousseau poses to liberals and communitarians alike by setting up a dialogue between him and charles taylor one of the most distinguished ethical and political theorists at work today

Rousseau, Nietzsche, and the Image of the Human 2021-09-30

rousseau and nietzsche presented two of the most influential critiques of modern life and much can still be learned from their respective analyses of problems we still face in rousseau nietzsche and the image of the human paul franco examines the relationship between jean jacques rousseau and friedrich nietzsche arguably the two most influential shapers and explorers of the moral and cultural imagination of late modernity both thinkers leveled radical critiques of modern life but those critiques differed in important respects whereas rousseau focused on the growing inequality of modern society and the hypocrisy self division and loss of civic virtue it spawned nietzsche decried the democratic equality he identified with rousseau and the loss of individual and cultural greatness it entailed franco argues however that rousseau and nietzsche are more than mere critics they both put forward powerful alternative visions of how we ought to live franco focuses specifically on their views of the

self and its realization their understandings of women and the relation between the sexes and their speculative conceptions of politics while there are many similarities in their positive visions franco argues that it is the differences between them from which we have most to learn

On the Social Contract 2014-05-31

long hailed as one of the most original controversial and influential works of modern political theory jean jacques rousseau s on the social contract or principles of political right 1762 sets out to address an apparently insoluble difficulty how can we organize a political community so as to guarantee its members the complete physical and emotional freedom given to them by nature while at the same time ensuring peaceful order and cooperation within the state how can we find a form of association which defends and protects with full communal force the person and the possessions of each member and in which each person by uniting with all nevertheless obeys only himself and remains as free as before rousseau s solution to this problem offers a vision of a republican constitution in which the citizens are free because as rational beings they choose to live in a state where they all have an equal share in the sovereign power and are all equally subject to the laws established by the general will of all no matter what the form of government in order to be legitimate it must be subject to the sovereignty of the people on the social contract is justly famous as a collectivist response to the more individualistic liberalism of hobbes and locke for rousseau true freedom in the modern state can only be realized if the citizens as rational individuals subordinate their selfish personal desires to the laws enacted by the general will of all citizens he states in one of his best known and most paradoxical sayings must be forced to be free only then can they realize their full potential as free moral beings

Rousseau and the Politics of Ambiguity 1996

this new reading of jean jacques rousseau challenges traditional views of the eighteenth century political philosopher s attitudes toward women and his perceived pessimism about human experience mira morgenstern finds in rousseau an appreciation of the complexities and multidimensionality of life that allowed him to criticize various easy dualisms promoted by his fellow liberal thinkers and point to the crucial mediating role that women fulfill between the private and public spheres morgenstern sees rousseau as an important contributor to the feminist thoughts and concerns that animate so much of our public and private discourse today while rousseau is commonly seen as a patriarchal misogynist morgenstern finds evidence in his writing that belies much of this claim rousseau was very much a man of his time but he also believed that women were the key to transmitting his ideals of personal and political authenticity thereby transforming his theory from ephemeral ideas into practical reality a careful evaluation of rousseau s writings on women reveals his highly complex sense of reality especially his awareness that the solutions to life s complex problems are often temporary and must be renegotiated over time rousseau is more persistent than most in highlighting the weaknesses and pitfalls of liberal political thought whose fundamental characteristic is its categorization of life on the basis of dualistic categories public and private outside and inside male and female ultimately what makes rousseau worth reading today argues morgenstern is his ability to illuminate critical weaknesses in the dualisms of liberal political theory and his pointing out if only by implication alternative ways of reaching the full measure of our individual and communal humanity in honoring the traditional liberal emphasis on individual liberty and self development rousseau s meditations on the proper aim of political life are especially helpful to those today who seek ways to expand liberalism s promise of freedom and authenticity while not losing sight of the common threads of meaning and community that continue to bind us

together

The Rousseauian Mind 2019-01-17

jean jacques rousseau 1712 1778 is a major figure in western philosophy and is one of the most widely read and studied political philosophers of all time his writings range from abstract works such as on the social contract to literary masterpieces such as the reveries of the solitary walker as well as immensely popular novels and operas the rousseauian mind provides a comprehensive survey of his work not only placing it in its historical context but also exploring its contemporary significance comprising over forty chapters by a team of international contributors the handbook covers the predecessors and contemporaries to rousseau s work the major texts of the system autobiographical texts including confessions reveries of the solitary walker and dialogues rousseau s political science the successors to rousseau s work rousseau applied today essential reading for students and researchers in philosophy rousseau s work is central to the study of political philosophy the enlightenment french studies the history of philosophy and political theory

Rousseau, Nature, and the Problem of the Good Life **2021-12**

the rise of modern science created a crisis for western moral and political philosophy which had theretofore relied either on christian theology or aristotelian natural teleology as guarantors of an objective standard for the good life this book examines rousseau s effort to show how and why despite this challenge from science which he himself intensified by equating our subhuman origins with our natural state nature can remain a standard for human behavior while recognizing an original goodness in human being in the state of nature rousseau knew this to be too low a standard and promoted the idea of the natural man living in the state of society notably in emile laurence cooper shows how for rousseau conscience understood as the love of order functions as the agent whereby simple savage sentiment is sublimated into a more refined civilized naturalness to which all people can aspire

Lessons on Rousseau 2019-11-26

althusser dissects the leading enlightenment philosopher althusser delivered these lectures on rousseau s discourse on the origins of inequality at the École normale supérieure in paris in 1972 they are fascinating for two reasons first they gave rise to a new generation of rousseau scholars attentive not just to rousseau s ideas but also to those of his concepts that were buried beneath metaphors or fictional situations and characters a new way of coming to terms with rousseau s theoretical rigour beneath his apparent reveries and sentimental flights of fancy was here put to work second we are now discovering that the late althusser s theses about aleatory materialism and the need to break with the strict determinism of theories of history in order to devise a new philosophy for marx were being worked out well before 1985 in this reading of rousseau dating from twelve years earlier which introduces into rousseau s text the ideas of the void the accident the take and the necessity of contingency

The Social Contract, Or Principles of Political Right **2014-07-28**

his most famous and influential work the reader s encyclopedia long hailed as one of

the most original controversial and influential works of modern political theory jean jacques rousseau s on the social contract or principles of political right 1762 sets out to address an apparently insoluble difficulty how can we organize a political community so as to guarantee its members the complete physical and emotional freedom given to them by nature while at the same time ensuring peaceful order and cooperation within the state how can we find a form of association which defends and protects with full communal force the person and the possessions of each member and in which each person by uniting with all nevertheless obeys only himself and remains as free as before rousseau s solution to this problem offers a vision of a republican constitution in which the citizens are free because as rational beings they choose to live in a state where they all have an equal share in the sovereign power and are all equally subject to the laws established by the general will of all no matter what the form of government in order to be legitimate it must be subject to the sovereignty of the people on social contract is justly famous as a collectivist response to the more individualistic liberalism of hobbes and locke for rousseau true freedom in the modern state can only be realized if the citizens as rational individuals subordinate their selfish personal desires to the laws enacted by the general will of all citizens he states in one of his best known and most paradoxical sayings must be forced to be free only then can they realize their full potential as free moral beings

Rousseau and Critical Theory 2017-09-04

in rousseau and critical theory alessandro ferrara argues that an implicit normative understanding of the authenticity of an identity brings unity to rousseau s multifarious lifework and contains important teachings for contemporary critical theory views of self constitution and political philosophy

Rousseau's Social Contract 2014-01-13

if the greatness of a philosophical work can be measured by the volume and vehemence of the public response there is little question that rousseau s social contract stands out as a masterpiece within a week of its publication in 1762 it was banished from france soon thereafter rousseau fled to geneva where he saw the book burned in public at the same time many of his contemporaries such as kant considered rousseau to be the newton of the moral world as he was the first philosopher to draw attention to the basic dignity of human nature the social contract has never ceased to be read and debated in the 250 years since its publication rousseau s social contract an introduction offers a thorough and systematic tour of this notoriously paradoxical and challenging text david lay williams offers readers a chapter by chapter reading of the social contract squarely confronting these interpretive obstacles the book also features a special extended appendix dedicated to outlining rousseau s famous conception of the general will which has been the object of controversy since the social contract s publication in 1762

Language, Subjectivity, and Freedom in Rousseau's Moral Philosophy 2019-04-25

this book first published in 1991 has two related goals the first is to explicate rousseau s conception of subjectivity the second is to trace the influence of that conception on his theory of freedom it argues that rousseau s conception of subjectivity provides us with a basis for understanding both his analysis of the social problem of advanced civil societies and the solutions he proposes to this problem

Rousseau's God 2023

rousseau's god offers a comprehensive interpretation of rousseau's theological and religious writings both in themselves and in relation to his philosophy of the natural goodness of man john t scott argues that there is a complicated relationship between rousseau's philosophy on the one hand and his theological and religious thought this relationship revolves around two oppositions first between the attributes and psychological needs of natural man and social or moral man second between the criteria of truth and utility for evaluating theological and religious doctrines in short because the justification of nature through the natural goodness of man does not suffice for developed humans rousseau offers theological and religious doctrines which are less true than useful psychologically morally or politically

Rousseau and the Problem of Human Relations 2016-03-23

in this volume john warner grapples with one of jean jacques rousseau's chief preoccupations the problem of self interest implicit in all social relationships not only did rousseau never solve this problem warner argues but he also believed it was fundamentally unsolvable that social relationships could never restore wholeness to a self interested human being this engaging study is founded on two basic but important questions what do we want out of human relationships and are we able to achieve what we are after warner traces his answers through the contours of rousseau's thought on three distinct types of relationships sexual love friendship and civil or political association as well as alternate interpretations of rousseau such as that of the neo kantian rawlsian school the result is an insightful exploration of the way rousseau inspires readers to imbue social relations with purpose and meaning only to show the impossibility of reaching wholeness through such relationships while rousseau may raise our hopes only to dash them rousseau and the problem of human relations demonstrates that his ambitious failure offers unexpected insight into the human condition and into the limits of rousseau's critical act

Rousseau Today 2023-05-30

this book demonstrates that rousseau offers a distinctive critical voice which is worthy of listening to rousseau is shown to target not merely social injustices but the very dynamics central to the form of life itself as such we are able to contemplate and engage in a more foundational form of social critique we contend that by returning to rousseau both as a theorist in his own right and as an interlocutor with the contemporary literature within radical political and social philosophy we can see both the circumscribed nature of contemporary discussion and the true importance of rousseau's thought in summary rousseau remains a figure of vital importance across disciplines and it is high time for an edited volume which connects insights centring his thought and impact today

Thinking with Rousseau 2017-06-16

rousseau's relation to the western intellectual tradition is re examined through a series of conversations between rousseau and other great thinkers

A Reinterpretation of Rousseau 2007-10-01

in this radical reinterpretation of rousseau jeremiah alberg argues that the philosopher's system of thought is founded on theological scandal and on rousseau's inability to accept forgiveness alberg explores his views in relation to alternative

forms of christianity

Rousseau and Freedom 2010-04-22

debates about freedom an ideal continually contested were first set out in their modern version by the eighteenth century french philosopher jean jacques rousseau his ideas and analyses were taken up during the philosophical enlightenment often invoked during the french revolution and still resonate in contemporary discussions of freedom this volume first published in 2010 examines rousseau s many approaches to the concept of freedom in the context of his thought on literature religion music theater women the body and the arts its expert contributors cross disciplinary frontiers to develop thought provoking new angles on rousseau s thought by taking freedom as the guiding principle of their analysis the essays form a cohesive account of rousseau s writings

***Economics, Accounting and the True Nature of Capitalism* 2021-11-29**

almost all economists whether classical neoclassical or marxist have failed in their analyses of capitalism to consider the underpinning systems of accounting this book draws attention to this lacuna focusing specifically on the concept of capital a major concept that dominates all teaching and practice in both economics and management it is argued that while for the practitioners of capitalism in accounting and business the capital in their accounts is a debt to be repaid or a thing to be kept for economists it has been considered a means or even a resource or an asset intended to be worn out this category error has led to economists failing to comprehend the true nature of capitalism on this basis this book proposes a new definition of capitalism that brings about considerable changes in the attitude to be had towards this economic system in particular the means to bring about its replacement this book will be of significant interest to readers of political economy history of economic thought critical accounting and heterodox economics

***Frameworks of Time in Rousseau* 2023-10-12**

frameworks of time in rousseau explores the ways in which jean jacques rousseau envisaged time as a diagnostic tool for understanding the state of society and the predicaments of modernity central to his conceptualization of both nature and history time also plays a unique role in rousseau s literary and aesthetic explorations of selfhood and affect this book brings into dialogue specialists from education political theory literature and cultural studies with the aim of underscoring rousseau s contributions to themes that preoccupy us today such as the appreciation of slow time the uncounted time of women s lives and temporal challenges related to politics and the economy

Rousseau's Critique of Science 2009

rousseau s critique of science argues that the first discourse is an indispensable work both for those interested in understanding rousseau s philosophical system and for those interested in the political consequences of the modern liberal democratic commitment to scientific progress through two simultaneous readings of the discourse a na ve reading that examines rousseau s arguments in isolation and a sophisticated reading that interprets these arguments in the light of rousseau s later systematic works the commentary pursues answers to four questions about the basis of rousseau s thesis that scientific progress contributes to moral corruption about the origin and method of rousseau s philosophical system about the place of the discourse in

rousseau s system and about the consequences of rousseau s critique of science for the future happiness of mankind in this pursuit the commentary follows the order of the discourse itself and is organized into two sections and nine chapters an introduction seven topical chapters each treating a theme raised by the discourse and a conclusion in answer to its four guiding questions it concludes that rousseau s thesis is based on his understanding of the nature of the interaction of reason and vanity that rousseau s system originates in introspection and is established by a non historical method of analysis and synthesis that the discourse is an indispensable part of rousseau s system because it spells out the beginnings of this analysis and the conclusions of this synthesis and through the limitations of its arguments points to the entire extent of his system and that as a result rousseau s critique of science has much to teach us about the dangers involved in our political commitment to scientific progress and about the ways in which the future happiness of mankind might be secured

Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2020-01-13

this is a book about why jean jacques rousseau can be seen as one of the first theorists of the concept of civil society and a key source of the idea of a federal system

The Challenge of Rousseau 2013

the essays in this volume focus on rousseau s genuine yet undervalued stature as a philosopher

Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2005

reconstructs the life of the french literary genius whose writing changed opinions and fueled fierce debate on both sides of the atlantic during the period of the american and french revolutions

Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Human nature and history 2006

bringing together critical assessments of the broad range of rousseau s thought with a particular emphasis on his political theory this systematic collection is an essential resource for both student and scholar

Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the 'Well-Ordered Society' 1988

this book studies a central but hitherto neglected aspect of rousseau s political thought the concept of social order and its implications for the ideal society which he envisages the antithesis between order and disorder is a fundamental theme in rousseau s work and the author takes it as the basis for this study in contrast with a widely held interpretation of rousseau s philosophy professor viroli argues that natural and political order are by no means the same for rousseau he explores the differences and interrelations between the different types of order which rousseau describes and shows how the philosopher constructed his final doctrine of the just society which can be based only on every citizen s voluntary and knowing acceptance of the social contract and on the promotion of virtue above ambition the author also shows the extent of rousseau s debt to the republican tradition and above all to machiavelli and revises the image of rousseau as a disciple of the natural law school

Redemptive Change 2002-04-01

change is a daily fact of life one that people often have a hard time embracing but when change does come people do want it to be meaningful to them and to have some enduring value for their lives in redemptive change r r reno argues that modern culture fails to offer people the hope of meaningful and enduring change he shows how modern philosophers have argued that people are self sufficient that they do not need god to complete their identities and that whatever changes they experience are momentary and of no ultimate significance countering modern philosophy reno contends that the only meaningful change occurs in christ at the moment of atonement people experience an enduring change that has momentous consequences for their lives we matter he says only insofar as we are more dependent upon and changed by christ r r reno is associate professor of theology creighton university omaha nebraska and co author of heroism and the christian life reclaiming excellence

Hobbes and Rousseau 1972

this book takes a serious look at nietzsche as political thinker and relates his political ideas to the dominant traditions of modern political thought it also demonstrates rousseau s crucial role in nietzsche s understanding of modernity

Nietzsche Contra Rousseau 1996-08-08

in rousseau on education freedom and judgment denise schaeffer challenges the common view of rousseau as primarily concerned with conditioning citizens passions in order to promote republican virtue and unreflective patriotism schaeffer argues that to the contrary rousseau s central concern is the problem of judgment and how to foster it on both the individual and political level in order to create the conditions for genuine self rule offering a detailed commentary on rousseau s major work on education emile and a wide ranging analysis of the relationship between emile and several of rousseau s other works schaeffer explores rousseau s understanding of what good judgment is how it is learned and why it is central to the achievement and preservation of human freedom the model of rousseauian citizenship that emerges from schaeffer s analysis is more dynamic and self critical than is often recognized this book demonstrates the importance of rousseau s contribution to our understanding of the faculty of judgment and more broadly invites a critical reevaluation of rousseau s understanding of education citizenship and both individual and collective freedom

Rousseau on Education, Freedom, and Judgment 2015-06-13

jean jacques rousseau 1712 1778 was hailed by claude lévi strauss as the founder of the sciences of man this collection of fourteen classic papers devoted to his work addresses the points of intersection between the moral and the political the personal and the social the volume is divided into five parts the critique of progress and the speculative anthropology the naturalizing of natural law the general will and totalitarianism anticipations of game theory and strategies of redemption the articles are accompanied by an extensive detailed introduction by the editor along with a selective bibliography

Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2017-05-15

laurie johnson investigates two enlightenment era reactions to honor in locke and rousseau she provides an in depth analysis of how political philosophers john locke and jean jacques rousseau react differently to the place and importance of honor in society locke continues the trend of rejecting honor as a means of achieving order

and justice in society preferring instead the modern motivation of rational self interest johnson explores the possibility of an honor code that is compatible with lockean liberalism but also points out the problems inherent in such a project she then turns to rousseau whose reaction to enlightenment ideas reveals our own divided mood rousseau s worries and ambivalence about honor are our worries and ambivalence and his failed attempt to revise honor in a way that works within the modern system highlights how difficult any project to resurrect the value of honor will be this book will interest anyone who wonders what happened to honor in our world today including students of communitarianism johnson warns us that we cannot simply look to the past to the ideals of locke or other enlightenment thinkers such as the american founders for answers to our current family social and economic problems because our problems at least partly stem from enlightenment liberal thought instead we must fully recognize this connection before we can start to formulate a definition of honor that can work for us today

Locke and Rousseau 2012-04-26

what is freedom what is equality and what is sovereignty a foundational text of modern political philosophy rousseau s social contract has generated much debate and exerted extraordinary influence not only on political thought but also modern political history by way of the french revolution and other political events ideals and practices the social contract is regularly studied in undergraduate courses of philosophy political thought and modern intellectual history as well as being the subject of graduate seminars in numerous disciplines the book inspires an ongoing flow of scholarly articles and monographs few texts have offered more influential and important answers to research questions than rousseau s social contract and in this new cambridge companion a multidisciplinary team of contributors provides new ways to navigate this masterpiece of political philosophy and its animating questions

Cambridge Companion to Rousseau's Social Contract 2023-12-31

politics and vision is a landmark work by one of the great thinkers of the twentieth century this is a significantly expanded edition of one of the greatest works of modern political theory sheldon wolin s politics and vision inspired and instructed two generations of political theorists after its appearance in 1960 substantially expanded for republication in 2004 it is both a sweeping survey of western political thought and a powerful account of contemporary predicaments of power and democracy in lucid and compelling prose sheldon wolin offers original subtle and often surprising interpretations of political theorists from plato to rawls situating them historically while sounding their depths he critically engages their diverse accounts of politics theory power justice citizenship and institutions the new chapters which show how thinkers have grappled with the immense possibilities and dangers of modern power are themselves a major theoretical statement they culminate in wolin s remarkable argument that the united states has invented a new political form inverted totalitarianism in which economic rather than political power is dangerously dominant in this expanded edition the book that helped to define political theory in the late twentieth century should energize enlighten and provoke generations of scholars to come wolin originally wrote politics and vision to challenge the idea that political analysis should consist simply of the neutral observation of objective reality he argues that political thinkers must also rely on creative vision wolin shows that great theorists have been driven to shape politics to some vision of the good that lies outside the existing political order as he tells it the history of theory is thus in part the story of changing assumptions

about the good acclaimed as a tour de force when it was first published and a major scholarly event when the expanded edition appeared politics and vision will instruct inspire and provoke for generations to come

Politics and Vision 2016-09-12

the idea that religion has a dangerous tendency to promote violence is part of the conventional wisdom of western societies and it underlies many of our institutions and policies from limits on the public role of religion to efforts to promote liberal democracy in the middle east william t cavanaugh challenges this conventional wisdom by examining how the twin categories of religion and the secular are constructed a growing body of scholarly work explores how the category religion has been constructed in the modern west and in colonial contexts according to specific configurations of political power cavanaugh draws on this scholarship to examine how timeless and transcultural categories of religion and the secular are used in arguments that religion causes violence he argues three points 1 there is no transhistorical and transcultural essence of religion what counts as religious or secular in any given context is a function of political configurations of power 2 such a transhistorical and transcultural concept of religion as non rational and prone to violence is one of the foundational legitimating myths of western society 3 this myth can be and is used to legitimate neo colonial violence against non western others particularly the muslim world

The Myth of Religious Violence 2009-09-03

the period from the fifteenth century to the late eighteenth century was one of critical importance to british constitutionalism although the seeds were sown in earlier eras it was at this point that the constitution was transformed to a system of representative parliamentary government changes at the practical level of the constitution were accompanied by a wealth of ideas on constitutions written from different and often competing perspectives hobbes and locke harrington hume and bentham coke the levellers and blackstone were all engaged in the constitutional affairs of the day and their writings influenced the direction and outcome of constitutional thought and development they treated themes of a universal and timeless character and as such have established themselves of lasting interest and importance in the history of constitutional thought examining their works we can follow the shaping of contemporary ideas of constitutions and the design of constitutional texts at the same time major constitutional change and upheaval were taking place in america and france this was an era of intense discussion examination and constitution making the new nation of the united states looked to authors such as locke hume harrington and sydney for guidance in their search for a new republicanism adding to the development of constitutional thought and practice this collection includes chapters examining the influences of madison hamilton jefferson and adams in france the influence of rousseau was apparent in the revolutionary constitution and sieyes was an active participant in its discussion and design montesquieu and de maistre reflected on the nature of constitutions and constitutional government and these french writers drew on engaged with and challenged the british and american writers the essays in this volume reveal a previously unexplored dynamic relationship between the authors of the three nations explaining the intimate connection between ruler and ruled

Constitutions and the Classics 2014-12-11

this volume presents lucid and insightful lectures on three great figures from the history of political thought by john plamenatz 1912 1975 a leading political philosopher of his time he explores a range of themes in the political thought of

machiavelli hobbes and rousseau at substantially greater length and depth than in his famous work of 1961 man and society the lectures exemplify plamenatz s view that repeated engagement with the texts of canonical thinkers can substantially enrich and expand our capacity for political reflection edited by mark philp and zbigniew pelczynski the volume includes annotations to supply plamenatz s sources and to refer readers to developments in their interpretation a substantial introduction by philp sets some of plamenatz s concerns in the light of trends in recent scholarship and illuminates the relevance of his work to the contemporary study of political thought

Machiavelli, Hobbes, and Rousseau 2012-06-28

rousseau begins the social contract with the notable phrase man is born free but everywhere he is in chains because these chains are not found in the state of nature they must be constructions of convention rousseau thus seeks the basis for a legitimate political authority in which people must give up their natural liberty he sets two conditions for a lawful polity and creates several clauses to ensure that they are carried out first there must be no relationships of particular dependence in the state and second by obeying the laws an individual only obeys himself rousseau s solution to the problem of legitimate authority is the social contract an agreement by which the people band together for their mutual preservation this act of association creates a collective body called the sovereign the sovereign is the supreme authority in the state and has its own life and will the sovereign s interest or the general will always promotes the common good this is in contrast to the private will of each citizen which strives only for personal benefit

The Social Contract 2021-03-18

the case for democracy is an intrinsic part of our political culture this non partisan book provides the other side of the story via well researched history and current events that illuminate the theory and practice of democracy are the politics of the united states to blame for its current unsteady footing in the 21st century this book aims to answer this uncomfortable but relevant question by examining the strengths and weaknesses of democracy addressing complex topics such as the history of liberalism the relationship between democracy and capitalism the nature of representation and the difference between government and politics each of the book s chapters focuses on a recognized shortcoming of popular government such as inefficiency self interestedness and non participation each section begins by focusing on current events and tracing issues back through history through to the american founding and in many instances to antiquity in the conclusion the author proposes a series of thought provoking fixes

The Case against Democracy 2013-02-20

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