The aim of this introductory course in the history of modern political thought is decidedly not to convince you of the validity or invalidity of any of the arguments we study, but rather to get you to see that there are, and long have been, deep and meaningful disagreements about the very first principles that order our social and political lives -- and that it is possible to engage in reasoned debate about these things.

**Books for purchase** (please use these editions)

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince* (Cambridge)


John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government* (Cambridge)

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Basic Political Writings* (Hackett)

**Requirements**

A list of study questions intended to assist reading and structure discussion is available at: [http://weber.ucsd.edu/~fformanb/page1/110B.htm](http://weber.ucsd.edu/~fformanb/page1/110B.htm)

Since the exam and essay questions will be based largely upon these study questions, it will be useful to try answering them as you read. There will be one mid-term exam (week 6) and one take-home final essay, each of which constitutes 1/2 of your final grade. The final essay prompt will be distributed week 10 (Monday, March 7), and will be due during the scheduled exam period, on Monday, March 14, at 8-9pm in Solis 107.

**Schedule**

**Week 1:** Introduction

**Week 2:** Machiavelli, *The Prince*

**Week 4:** Montaigne, “Of Cannibals”: [www.victorianweb.org/courses/nonfiction/montaigne/cannibals.html](http://www.victorianweb.org/courses/nonfiction/montaigne/cannibals.html)

Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch. 6 (pp. 118-30), ch. 11 (only pp.160- to mid 163); chs. 13-16 (pp. 183-217)

**Week 5:** Hobbes, *Leviathan*, chs. 17-18 (pp. 223-239); ch. 21 (pp. 261-74), ch. 29 (363-76).

**Week 6:** Midterm Exam : Machiavelli and Hobbes

**Week 7:** Locke, *Second Treatise*, chs. 2-3 (pp. 269-82); chs. 4-5 (pp. 283-302); ch. 7 (only bottom 323-30); ch. 8 (only pp. 330-3 and mid 346-9)

**Week 9:** Locke, *Second Treatise*, ch. 9 (pp. 350-3), chs. 11-12 (pp. 350-66); chs. 13-14 (pp. 366-80); ch. 18 (pp. 398-405), ch. 19 (only pp. 406- middle of 419)

**Week 10:** Rousseau, *Discourse on Inequality*, Preface and Parts I-II.

**Final essay is due during finals week in our classroom, on Monday, March 14 at 8-9pm.** You may make arrangements with a TA to submit your final essay early.