

# An Introduction To Political Philosophy Wolff

An Introduction To Political Philosophy Wolff An to Political Philosophy Wolff An to Political Philosophy by Robert Paul Wolff is a seminal work that delves into the core concepts and enduring questions of political thought The book explores a diverse range of thinkers from classical philosophers like Plato and Aristotle to modern figures like Locke Rousseau and Marx providing a nuanced understanding of the development and evolution of political ideas Political philosophy justice liberty state government morality rights social contract natural law utilitarianism liberalism Marxism anarchism power authority democracy political obligation Wolffs book is divided into five parts each exploring a different aspect of political philosophy

- 1 The Nature of Political Philosophy This section establishes the fundamental questions of political philosophy exploring the nature of political power authority and the relationship between individuals and the state Wolff emphasizes the inherent conflict between individual liberty and the authority of the state
- 2 Theories of Justice This section examines various theories of justice including classical theories based on natural law and social contract theories Wolff scrutinizes these theories highlighting their strengths and weaknesses and ultimately advocating for a more individualistic approach to justice
- 3 Theories of the State This section explores the different forms of government including monarchy aristocracy democracy and various socialist models Wolff analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of each system while emphasizing the potential for tyranny inherent in all forms of government
- 4 Theories of Rights This section focuses on the concept of rights both natural and legal Wolff analyzes different theories of rights including those of Locke Kant and Mill and explores the implications of rights for individual freedom and the relationship between individuals and the state
- 5 Contemporary Political Philosophy This section examines contemporary debates in political philosophy including issues like distributive justice libertarianism and the concept 2 of political obligation Wolff offers his own perspective on these issues highlighting the enduring relevance of the core questions of political philosophy

Conclusion Wolffs An to Political Philosophy leaves the reader with a profound sense of the complexities and dilemmas inherent in political thought The book challenges us to critically examine our own beliefs and assumptions about the nature of power justice and individual freedom It encourages us to engage in ongoing dialogue and debate about the fundamental principles that shape our societies By offering a comprehensive and insightful exploration of political philosophy Wolff reminds us that the search for a just and equitable society is an ongoing journey requiring constant critical reflection and a commitment to the pursuit of truth and justice

FAQs

- 1 Is this book only for political science students No An to Political Philosophy is accessible to anyone interested in understanding the core concepts and questions of political thought Whether you are a student a professional or simply a curious individual this book can provide valuable insights into the foundations of our political systems
- 2 Is the book too theoretical While the book delves into complex philosophical ideas Wolff

presents them in a clear and accessible manner making them relevant to contemporary issues and concerns 3 Is Wolffs perspective biased Wolffs writing reflects his own libertarian perspective but he is careful to present diverse viewpoints and engage with competing theories The book encourages critical thinking and analysis of all perspectives 4 How does this book relate to current events An to Political Philosophy provides a foundation for understanding contemporary political debates from issues like social justice and economic equality to the role of government in society 5 What should I do after reading this book Wolffs book can serve as a springboard for further exploration of specific topics in political philosophy You can delve into the works of individual thinkers engage with contemporary political debates or explore the history of political ideas in greater depth By engaging with the fundamental questions and enduring challenges addressed in An to Political Philosophy we can gain a deeper understanding of our political systems and actively participate in shaping a more just and equitable world 3

An Introduction to Political PhilosophyThe Cambridge History of Eighteenth-Century Political ThoughtAn Introduction to Political PhilosophyIntroduction to Political PhilosophyAn Introduction to Political PhilosophyChina in Later Enlightenment Political ThoughtThe Political Turn in Analytic PhilosophyAn Introduction to Moral PhilosophyLectures on the History of Moral and Political PhilosophyConcise Routledge Encyclopedia of PhilosophyEncyclopedia of Modern Political Thought (set)In Defense of AnarchismKant's Political PhilosophyAn Introduction to Political Philosophy: Introduction: 6, Hobbes: 8, Locke: 17, Rousseau: 24, Anarchism: 29, Conclusion: 32, 2 Justifying the State: 34, Introduction: 34, The social contract: 39, Utilitarianism: 48, The principle of fairness: 55, Conclusion: 59, 3 Who Should Rule?: 62, Introduction: 62, Plato against democracy: 66, Rousseau and the general will: 77, Representative democracy: 93, Conclusion: 101, 4 The Place of Liberty: 104, Mill on liberty: 104, Justifying the Liberty Principle: 114, Problems with liberalism: 125, Conclusion: 131, 5 The Distribution of Property: 133, The problem of distributive justice: 133, Property and markets: 138, Rawls's theory of justice: 152, Rawls and his critics: 168, Conclusion: 176, 6 Individualism, Justice, Feminism: 177, Individualism and anti-individualism: 177, Rights for women: 182, Transcending liberal individualism?: 189, Final word: 199, Guide to Further Reading: 201, Index: 211In Defense of Political PhilosophyIn Defense of Political PhilosophyGlobal Political PhilosophyEthics and Public PolicyContemporary Social and Political PhilosophyWomen, Political Philosophy and Politics Jonathan Wolff Mark Goldie Jonathan Wolff Geoffrey Thomas Colin Bird Simon Kow David Bordonaba Plou Jonathan Wolff Jonathan Wolff Professor Edward Craig Gregory Claeys Robert Paul Wolff Patrick Riley Jeffrey H. Reiman Jeffrey H. Reiman Louis P. Pojman Jonathan Wolff James P. Sterba Liz Sperling An Introduction to Political Philosophy The Cambridge History of Eighteenth-Century Political Thought An Introduction to Political Philosophy Introduction to Political Philosophy An Introduction to Political Philosophy China in Later Enlightenment Political Thought The Political Turn in Analytic Philosophy An Introduction to Moral Philosophy Lectures on the History of Moral and Political Philosophy Concise Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy

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the revised edition of this highly successful text provides a clear and accessible introduction to some of the most important questions of political philosophy organized around major issues wolff provides the structure that beginners need while also introducing some distinctive ideas of his own

**publisher description**

written mainly as a text book but also for the general reader this book aims to provide an introduction to the subject of political philosophy all important past political philosophers make their appearance in the text including plato aristotle hobbes locke rousseau hegel marx and john stuart mill contemporary philosophers such as rawls dworkin and nozick are also included the book introduces 12 central political concepts power the state sovereignty law authority justice equality rights property freedom democracy and the public interest each of these topics are analyzed theories about them explained and problems discussed

an updated comprehensive and thematic introduction to political philosophy enabling readers to reflect critically on a variety of political issues

china in later enlightenment political thought examines the ideas of china in the works of mid to late eighteenth century european enlightenment political thinkers like its predecessor volume china in early enlightenment political thought this book is distinctive in providing in depth comparative analyses of works by seminal late enlightenment thinkers that specifically link their views on china to their political concerns it traces the shifts between metaphysical naturalistic economic technological cultural idealist and materialist accounts and philosophical histories of chinese politics society and culture it argues that unlike earlier

thinkers most of the later enlightenment authors assessed in this book including christian wolff voltaire fran-ois quesnay adam smith contributors to the encyclopédie abbé raynal denis diderot and johann gottfried herder developed conceptions of history which increasingly depicted china as unprogressive and even stagnant even later enlightenment enthusiasts of china such as voltaire were deeply ambivalent about the lessons european societies could draw from china when viewed in relation to progressive visions of world history the book also discusses the ways in which later enlightenment theorists who were critical of aspects of european imperialism especially diderot and herder nevertheless regarded china as backward and despotic and concludes with the influence of enlightenment conceptions of china on the philosophies of g w f hegel and karl marx as well as mao zedong's reappropriation of post enlightenment philosophy of history this book will appeal to scholars and advanced students of chinese history chinese philosophy chinese politics and political philosophy more generally

a new wave of thinkers from across different disciplines within the analytical tradition in philosophy has recently focused on critical societal challenges such as the silencing and questioning of the credibility of oppressed groups the political polarization that threatens the good functioning of democratic societies across the globe or the moral and political significance of gender race or sexual orientation appealing to both well established and younger international scholars this volume delves into some of the most relevant problems and discussions within the area bringing together for the first time different essays within what we deem to be a political turn in analytic philosophy this political turn consists of putting different conceptual and theoretical tools from epistemology philosophy of language philosophy of mind and metaphysics at the service of social and political change the aim is to ensure a better understanding of some of the key features of our social environments in an attempt to achieve a more just and equal society

rather than telling students what to think about moral issues this new text teaches students how to think for themselves using real world examples and vivid illustrations drawn from other disciplines it challenges preconceived notions about morality and demonstrates why ethics matters a companion volume readings in moral philosophy provides primary selections that amplify issues discussed in the text and extends them to problems in applied ethics

previously unpublished writings from one of the most important political philosophers of recent times g a cohen was one of the leading political philosophers of recent times he first came to wide attention in 1978 with the prize winning book karl marx's theory of history a defence in subsequent decades his published writings largely turned away from the history of philosophy focusing instead on equality freedom and justice however throughout his career he regularly lectured on a wide range of moral and political philosophers of the past this volume collects these previously unpublished lectures starting with a chapter centered on plato but also discussing the pre socratics as well as aristotle the book moves to social contract theory as discussed by hobbes locke and hume and then continues with chapters

on kant hegel and nietzsche the book also contains some previously published but uncollected papers on marx hobbes and kant among other figures the collection concludes with a memoir of cohen written by the volume editor jonathan wolff who was a student of cohen s a hallmark of the lectures is cohen s engagement with the thinkers he discusses rather than simply trying to render their thought accessible to the modern reader he tests whether their arguments and positions are clear sound and free from contradiction throughout he homes in on central issues and provides fresh approaches to the philosophers he examines ultimately these lectures teach us not only about some of the great thinkers in the history of moral and political philosophy but also about one of the great thinkers of our time cohen himself

the most complete and up to date philosophy reference for a new generation with entries ranging from abstract objects to wisdom socrates to jean paul sartre ancient egyptian philosophy to yoruba epistemology the concise routledge encyclopedia of philosophy includes more than 2000 alphabetically arranged accessible entries contributors from more than 1200 of the world s leading thinkers comprehensive coverage of the classic philosophical themes such as plato arguments for the existence of god and metaphysics up to date coverage of contemporary philosophers ideas schools and recent developments including jacques derrida poststructuralism and ecological philosophy unrivalled international and multicultural scope with entries such as modern islamic philosophy marxist thought in latin america and chinese buddhist thought an exhaustive index for ease of use extensive cross referencing suggestions for further reading at the end of each entry

this groundbreaking new work explores modern and contemporary political thought since 1750 looking at the thinkers concepts debates issues and national traditions that have shaped political thought from the enlightenment to post modernism and post structuralism encyclopedia of modern political thought is two volume a to z reference that provides historical context to the philosophical issues and debates that have shaped attitudes toward democracy citizenship rights property duties justice equality community law power gender race and legitimacy over the last three centuries it profiles major and minor political thinkers and the national traditions both western and non western which continue to shape and divide political thought more than 200 scholars from leading international research institutions and organizations have provided signed entries that offer comprehensive coverage of thought of regions and countries including african political thought american political thought australasian political thought australian and new zealand chinese political thought indian political thought islamic political thought japanese political thought and more thought regarding contemporary issues such as abortion affirmative action animal rights european integration feminism humanitarian intervention international law race and racism and more the ideological spectrum from marxism to neoconservatism including anarchism conservatism darwinism and social darwinism engels fascism the frankfurt school lenin and leninism socialism and more connections of political thought to key areas of politics and other disciplines such as economics psychology law and religion notable time periods of political thought since 1750 concepts including class democratic theory liberalism

nationalism natural and human rights and theories of the state theorists and political intellectuals both western and non western including john adams edmund burke mohandas gandhi immanuel kant ayatollah khomeini ernst friedrich schumacher george washington and mary wollstonecraft

in defense of anarchism is a 1970 book by the philosopher robert paul wolff in which the author defends individualist anarchism he argues that individual autonomy and state authority are mutually exclusive and that as individual autonomy is inalienable the moral legitimacy of the state collapses in defense of anarchism is a 1970 book by the philosopher robert paul wolff in which the author defends individualist anarchism he argues that individual autonomy and state authority are mutually exclusive and that as individual autonomy is inalienable

the revised edition of this highly successful text provides a clear and accessible introduction to some of the most important questions of political philosophy organized around major issues wolff provides the structure that beginners need while also introducing some distinctive ideas of his own

this up to date text treats political philosophy and issues including the terrorist attacks of september 11 from a global perspective considering the virtues of both nationalism and cosmopolitanism as part of his aim of describing a comprehensive global political philosophy pojman devotes considerable attention to a defense of ethical objectivism over its ubiquitous rival ethical relativism

train crashes cause on average a handful of deaths each year in the uk technologies exist that would save the lives of some of those who die yet these technical innovations would cost hundreds of millions of pounds should we spend the money how can we decide how to trade off life against financial cost such dilemmas make public policy a battlefield of values yet all too often we let technical experts decide the issues for us can philosophy help us make better decisions ethics and public policy a philosophical inquiry is the first book to subject important and controversial areas of public policy to philosophical scrutiny jonathan wolff a renowned philosopher and veteran of many public committees such as the gambling review body introduces and assesses core problems and controversies in public policy from a philosophical standpoint each chapter is centred on an important area of public policy where there is considerable moral and political disagreement topics discussed include can we defend inflicting suffering on animals in scientific experiments for human benefit what limits to gambling can be achieved through legislation what assumptions underlie drug policy can we justify punishing those who engage in actions that harm only themselves what is so bad about crime what is the point of punishment other chapters discuss health care disability safety and the free market throughout the book fundamental questions for both philosopher and policy maker recur what are the best methods for connecting philosophy and public policy should thinking about public policy be guided by an ideal world or the world we live in now if there are knock down arguments in philosophy why are there none in public policy

each chapter concludes with lessons for philosophy making this book not only an ideal introduction for those coming to philosophy ethics or public policy for the first time but also a vital resource for anyone grappling with the moral complexity underlying policy debates

this up to date introductory social and political philosophy text provides a survey of the major social and political ideals of our time and discusses the practical requirements of each of these ideals it argues for the controversial thesis that all contemporary social and political ideals can be reconciled in practice a challenging idea for students to discuss and evaluate

this new book explores the interface between political philosophy and politics looking at the effects of philosophical traditions on the contemporary relationship between women and politics analysing key concepts in political philosophy the author illustrates how common ideas entrenched in the development of political thought and practice have become almost intractable truths that continue to differentiate between the sexes in politics liz sperling looks in detail at the works of plato aristotle hobbes locke rousseau mill marx rawls and nozick considering general themes to which they have all contributed such as the state of nature the state markets citizenship and representation the focus then turns to the specific contributions of the philosophers that continue to influence the association of women to politics these include an analysis of greek classicists establishment of andocracy rousseau s treatise on education for citizenship and nineteenth century ideas of equality in conclusion the themes demonstrated throughout are drawn together to show how they translate into contemporary policy on women in politics offering an original insight into the ways in which political thought influences political practice this will be essential reading in a key area of politics philosophy and women s studies

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