

Machiavellis New Modes And Orders A Study Of The Discourses On Livy

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Political Philosophy and the Challenge of Revealed Religion

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Discourses on Livy is the founding document of modern republicanism, and Harvey C. Mansfield and Nathan Tarcov have provided the definitive English translation of this classic work. Faithful to the original Italian text, properly attentive to Machiavelli's idiom and subtlety of thought, it is eminently readable. With a substantial introduction, extensive explanatory notes, a glossary of key words, and an annotated index, the Discourses reveals Machiavelli's radical vision of a new science of politics, a vision of "new modes and orders" that continue to shape the modern ethos. "[Machiavelli] found in Livy the means to inspire scholars for five centuries. Within the Discourses, often hidden and sometimes unintended by their author, lie the seeds of modern political thought. . . . [Mansfield and Tarcov's] translation is careful and idiomatic."—Peter Stothard, *The Times* "Translated with painstaking accuracy—but also great readability."—*Weekly Standard* "A model of contemporary scholarship and a brave effort at Machiavelli translation that allows the great Florentine to speak in his own voice."—*Choice*

History of Political Philosophy

Although Machiavelli's ideas have entered the language as an adjective, what Machiavellian means at least to those who study him is a matter of ongoing and vigorous debate. Interpretations range from liberal and conservative, Cambridge School and anti-Cambridge School, Postmodernists, and traditionalists. All these approaches and others can be found in this distinctive volume drawn from an

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international conference celebrating the 500th anniversary of Machiavelli's "The Prince.". With original contributions by many of the field's leading scholars Quentin Skinner, Harvey Mansfield, Erica Benner, John McCormick, and Giovanni Giorgini, to name but a few."

Machiavelli's Virtue

Liberal thinker or immoral pragmatist? You decide... Machiavelli has been among the most commented upon, criticized and feared thinkers of the modern world. Infamous for his support of brutality and repression as valid political instruments, he is often portrayed as the pantomime villain of political theorists. In this whirlwind tour of Machiavelli's writings and eventful life, Nederman highlights the complexities in his thought, showing that he actually advocated democracy as much as dictatorship, debate as much as violence, depending upon prevailing political conditions.

Machiavelli

Machiavelli is popularly known as a teacher of tyrants, a key proponent of the unscrupulous "Machiavellian" politics laid down in his landmark political treatise *The Prince*. Others cite the *Discourses on Livy* to argue that Machiavelli is actually a passionate advocate of republican politics who saw the need for occasional harsh measures to maintain political order. Which best characterizes the teachings of the prolific Italian philosopher? With *Machiavelli's Politics*, Catherine H.

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Zuckert turns this question on its head with a major reinterpretation of Machiavelli's prose works that reveals a surprisingly cohesive view of politics. Starting with Machiavelli's two major political works, Zuckert persuasively shows that the moral revolution Machiavelli sets out in *The Prince* lays the foundation for the new form of democratic republic he proposes in the *Discourses*. Distrusting ambitious politicians to serve the public interest of their own accord, Machiavelli sought to persuade them in *The Prince* that the best way to achieve their own ambitions was to secure the desires and ambitions of their subjects and fellow citizens. In the *Discourses*, he then describes the types of laws and institutions that would balance the conflict between the two in a way that would secure the liberty of most, if not all. In the second half of her book, Zuckert places selected later works—*La Mandragola*, *The Art of War*, *The Life of Castruccio Castracani*, *Clizia*, and *Florentine Histories*—under scrutiny, showing how Machiavelli further developed certain aspects of his thought in these works. In *The Art of War*, for example, he explains more concretely how and to what extent the principles of organization he advanced in *The Prince* and the *Discourses* ought to be applied in modern circumstances. Because human beings act primarily on passions, Machiavelli attempts to show readers what those passions are and how they can be guided to have productive rather than destructive results. A stunning and ambitious analysis, Machiavelli's *Politics* brilliantly shows how many conflicting perspectives do inform Machiavelli's teachings, but that one needs to consider all of his works in order to understand how they cohere into a unified political view. This is a

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magisterial work that cannot be ignored if a comprehensive understanding of the philosopher is to be obtained.

Machiavelli and Epicureanism

In this incisive look at early modern views of party politics, Harvey C. Mansfield examines the pamphlet war between Edmund Burke and the followers of Henry St. John, First Viscount Bolingbroke during the mid-eighteenth century. In response to works by Bolingbroke published posthumously, Burke created his most eloquent advocacy of the party system. Taking an interdisciplinary approach to the material, Mansfield shows that present-day parties must be understood in the light of the history of party government. The complicated organization and the public actions of modern parties are the result, he contends, and not the cause of a great change in opinion about parties. Mansfield points out that while parties have always existed, the party government that we know today is possible only because parties are now considered respectable. In Burke's day, however, they were thought by detractors to be a cancer in a free polity. Even many supporters of the parties viewed them as a dangerous instrument, only to be used cautiously by statesmen in dire times. Burke, however, was an early champion of the party system in Britain and made his arguments with a clear-eyed realism. In *Statesmanship and Party Government*, Mansfield provides a skillful evaluation of Burke's writings and sheds light present-day party politics through a profound understanding of the

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historical background of the their inception.

Statesmanship and Party Government

"We can call Thomas Paine- eminent Founder, verbal bomb-thrower, Deist, revolutionary, and rationalist- the spark of the American Revolution. In his influential pamphlets, Paine codified both colonial outrage and the intellectual justification for independence, arguing consistently and convincingly for Enlightenment values and the power of the people. He was a master of political rhetoric, from the sarcastic insult to the diplomatic aperçu. Today, we are living in times that, as Paine said, try men's souls. Whatever your politics, if you're seeking a new Paine- with rhetoric to ignite social and political transformations- where better to start than at the source? This is a work that provides quotes from Thomas Paine's writings"--

Reading Machiavelli

Mansfield's translation of this classic work, in combination with the new material added for this edition, makes it the definitive version of *The Prince*, indispensable to scholars, students, and lovers of the dark art of politics.

The Cambridge Companion to Machiavelli

James Madison is the thinker most responsible for laying the groundwork of the American commercial republic. But he did not anticipate that the propertied class on which he relied would become extraordinarily

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politically powerful at the same time as its interests narrowed. This and other flaws, argues Stephen L. Elkin, have undermined the delicately balanced system he constructed. In *Reconstructing the Commercial Republic*, Elkin critiques the Madisonian system, revealing which of its aspects have withstood the test of time and which have not. The deficiencies Elkin points out provide the starting point for his own constitutional theory of the republic—a theory that, unlike Madison’s, lays out a substantive conception of the public interest that emphasizes the power of institutions to shape our political, economic, and civic lives. Elkin argues that his theory should guide us toward building a commercial republic that is rooted in a politics of the public interest and the self-interest of the middle class. He then recommends specific reforms to create this kind of republic, asserting that Americans today can still have the lives a commercial republic is intended to promote: lives with real opportunities for economic prosperity, republican political self-government, and individual liberty.

Machiavelli's Ethics

Leo Strauss argued that the most visible fact about Machiavelli's doctrine is also the most useful one: Machiavelli seems to be a teacher of wickedness. Strauss sought to incorporate this idea in his interpretation without permitting it to overwhelm or exhaust his exegesis of *The Prince* and the *Discourses on the First Ten Books of Livy*. "We are in sympathy," he writes, "with the simple opinion about Machiavelli [namely, the wickedness of his teaching], not only

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because it is wholesome, but above all because a failure to take that opinion seriously prevents one from doing justice to what is truly admirable in Machiavelli: the intrepidity of his thought, the grandeur of his vision, and the graceful subtlety of his speech." This critique of the founder of modern political philosophy by this prominent twentieth-century scholar is an essential text for students of both authors.

Machiavelli in Tumult

Niccolò Machiavelli is the most prominent and notorious theorist of violence in the history of European political thought - prominent, because he is the first to candidly discuss the role of violence in politics; and notorious, because he treats violence as virtue rather than as vice. In this original interpretation, Yves Winter reconstructs Machiavelli's theory of violence and shows how it challenges moral and metaphysical ideas. Winter attributes two central theses to Machiavelli: first, violence is not a generic technology of government but a strategy that tends to correlate with inequality and class conflict; and second, violence is best understood not in terms of conventional notions of law enforcement, coercion, or the proverbial 'last resort', but as performance. Most political violence is effective not because it physically compels another agent who is thus coerced; rather, it produces political effects by appealing to an audience. As such, this book shows how in Machiavelli's world, violence is designed to be perceived, experienced, remembered, and narrated.

Executive Power in Theory and Practice

Since September 11, 2001, long-standing debates over the nature and proper extent of executive power have assumed a fresh urgency. In this book eleven leading scholars of American politics and political theory address the idea of executive power.

Hegemony and Power

This book gives a radical, new, chapter-by-chapter reading of Machiavelli's *The Prince*, arguing that it is an ironic masterpiece with a moral purpose. It outlines Machiavelli's most important ironic techniques: a normatively coded use of language.

The Prince

The term "hegemony", which has a powerful currency in ongoing debates in contemporary discourse, can be traced to the Italian revolutionary theorist Antonio Gramsci. For Gramsci, political subjects and ideologies are complex "collective wills" that result from the articulation of dispersed and fragmented historical forces and agents. Power and ideology themselves are never situated above and beyond materiality but are embodied in institutions and various apparatuses. "Hegemony and Power" presents a comparative and textual exploration of Gramsci's interpretation of Machiavelli's political analyses. This valuable contribution to our understanding of Gramsci deals with the central elements of his thought that have attracted

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widespread attention. Specifically, Fontana compares the major Machiavellian ideas such as the nature of political knowledge, the new principality, the concept of the people, and the relation between thought and action, to Gramsci's concepts of hegemony, moral and intellectual reform, and the collective will.

Fontana argues that because Gramsci formulated his understanding of Machiavelli as a reaction to and a critique of the liberal and idealistic philosophy of Benedetto Croce, the relation between Gramsci and Machiavelli can be understood only when located within Italian culture, history, and politics. Fontana concludes that Gramsci's political theory is actually a commentary on the problem originally enunciated by Machiavelli: the transformation of a disaggregated mass into a coherent, democratic citizenry.

Ultimately, "Hegemony and Power" aims to initiate a recapitulative reading of Gramsci to indicate the problems intrinsic to that (re)reading, especially from contemporary post-Marxist perspectives.

Machiavelli's Virtue

Although Machiavelli is usually considered a pioneer among modern political philosophers, he read deeply in and was greatly influenced by the works of classical Roman thinkers such as Livy. There is thus a fundamental tension between the modern and the ancient within Machiavelli's philosophy; he is both a precursor to the Enlightenment and a throwback to republican Rome. This is the main thesis behind Patrick Coby's innovative study of the neglected Machiavellian classic *Discourses on Livy*. Coby argues

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that scholars have been too quick to dismiss the ancient antecedents of Machiavelli's thought, particularly with regard to the modes and orders of the Roman republic. The book seeks to resolve the central paradox of the Discourses, that Machiavelli recommends adoption of Roman modes and orders even though those modes and orders destroyed the *virtu*, the strength, which Machiavelli would have moderns resuscitate by imitating Rome. A sophisticated, highly engaging book, Machiavelli's Romans will be of special interest to political theorists, Renaissance scholars, and classicists.

The Cambridge Companion to Machiavelli

In the only full-length interpretive study of Machiavelli's Discourses on Livy, Harvey C. Mansfield provides a chapter-by-chapter commentary of this controversial and ambiguous work. Mansfield argues that Machiavelli's new modes and orders were intended to undermine the classical and Christian foundations of political philosophy and establish a new foundation not only for modern political philosophy, but for modern politics as well. This penetrating study, wrought by one of Machiavelli's foremost interpreters, uncovers the hidden intricacies of the Discourses. It will inform and challenge its readers at every step.

The Rise of Modern Philosophy

"This study, wrought by one of Machiavelli's interpreters, uncovers the hidden intricacies of the

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Discourses. It will inform and challenge its readers at every step."--BOOK JACKET.

Machiavelli's Three Romes

How do people excluded from political life achieve political agency? Through a series of historical events that have been mostly overlooked by political theorists, Martin Breugh identifies fleeting yet decisive instances of emancipation in which people took it upon themselves to become political subjects. Emerging during the Roman plebs's first secession in 494 BCE, the plebeian experience consists of an underground or unexplored configuration of political strategies to obtain political freedom. The people reject domination through political praxis and concerted action, therefore establishing an alternative form of power. Breugh's study concludes in the nineteenth century and integrates ideas from sociology, philosophy, history, and political science. Organized around diverse case studies, his work undertakes exercises in political theory to show how concepts provide a different understanding of the meaning of historical events and our political present. The Plebeian Experience describes a recurring phenomenon that clarifies struggles for emancipation throughout history, expanding research into the political agency of the many and shedding light on the richness of radical democratic struggles from ancient Rome to Occupy Wall Street and beyond.

Machiavelli on Liberty and Conflict

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'Men are infamous and detestable who are destroyers of religion, squanderers of kingdoms and republics, and enemies of the virtues.' Niccolo Machiavelli
Machiavelli (1459-1527) is one of the most influential modern political thinkers. His works, above all *The Prince*, *The Discourses on Livy*, *The Florentine Histories* and *The Art of War*, are still passionately discussed and continue to give rise to new visions of political action. Against the trite commonplace that Machiavelli was a teacher of evil who justified political immorality, Maurizio Viroli shows that Machiavelli was concerned instead with the best way to attain true glory through political action and that his works were inspired by a profound love of republican liberty. Extracts are taken from the whole corpus of Machiavelli's works, including his personal letters.

The Political Philosophy of Hobbes

Among the theses that for centuries have ensured Niccol- Machiavelli an ambiguous fame, a special place goes to his extremely positive opinion of social conflicts, and, more in particular, to the claim that in ancient Rome 'the disunion between the plebs and the Roman senate made that republic free and powerful' (*Discourses on Livy* I.4). Contrary to a long tradition that had always highly valued civic concord, Machiavelli thought that - at least under certain conditions - internecine discord could be a source of strength and not of weakness, and built upon this daring proposition an original vision of political order. *Machiavelli in Tumult* (originally published in Italian in 2011) is the first book-length study entirely devoted

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to analyzing this idea, its ancient roots (never before identified), its enduring (but often invisible) influence up until the American and the French Revolution (and beyond), and its relevance for contemporary political theory.

Reconstructing the Commercial Republic

The esteemed philosopher's assessment of good, evil, and the value of Machiavelli. Leo Strauss argued that the most visible fact about Machiavelli's doctrine is also the most useful one: Machiavelli seems to be a teacher of wickedness. Strauss sought to incorporate this idea in his interpretation without permitting it to overwhelm or exhaust his exegesis of *The Prince* and *Discourses on the First Ten Books of Livy*. "We are in sympathy," he writes, "with the simple opinion about Machiavelli [namely, the wickedness of his teaching], not only because it is wholesome, but above all because a failure to take that opinion seriously prevents one from doing justice to what is truly admirable in Machiavelli: the intrepidity of his thought, the grandeur of his vision, and the graceful subtlety of his speech." This critique of the founder of modern political philosophy by this prominent twentieth-century scholar is an essential text for students of both authors.

Philosophers in Conversation

Uniting thirty years of authoritative scholarship by a master of textual detail, Machiavelli's *Virtue* is a comprehensive statement on the founder of modern

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politics. Harvey Mansfield reveals the role of sects in Machiavelli's politics, his advice on how to rule indirectly, and the ultimately partisan character of his project, and shows him to be the founder of such modern and diverse institutions as the impersonal state and the energetic executive. Accessible and elegant, this groundbreaking interpretation explains the puzzles and reveals the ambition of Machiavelli's thought. "The book brings together essays that have mapped [Mansfield's] paths of reflection over the past thirty years. . . . The ground, one would think, is ancient and familiar, but Mansfield manages to draw out some understandings, or recognitions, jarringly new."—Hadley Arkes, *New Criterion* "Mansfield's book more than rewards the close reading it demands."—Colin Walters, *Washington Times* "[A] masterly new book on the Renaissance courtier, statesman and political philosopher. . . . Mansfield seeks to rescue Machiavelli from liberalism's anodyne rehabilitation."—Roger Kimball, *The Wall Street Journal*

How To Read Machiavelli

Market Prophets: Eddie Z's Interviews with Wall Street Legends, Gurus, All Stars, and Hall of Famers is a priceless collection of stories, anecdotes, experiences, and trading insights from some of the most successful traders in the last 50 years. Some of these traders you may have heard of and others will be totally new to you. Either way, this collection of experience and know-how, represents a combined lifetime earnings over \$100 million dollars and over 100 years of full

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time engagement with the markets. As a veteran or new trader, you may be asking yourself: "Why is it important to hear the stories of experienced, successful traders?" There are several good reasons: The first reason is to get an idea of the learning curve involved in becoming a successful trader. Like any other skill, trading requires hours of practice, learning, and hands-on experience—especially learning from mistakes. These interviews are the best way to find out the biggest mistakes that even successful traders have made on their way to becoming consistently profitable. Second, experienced, veteran traders have the ability to give you insights and distinctions that you otherwise may not get anywhere else. Guys who have been in the trading trenches have the ability to see market events and phenomena well before the average person does. This high level of experience and training can be compared to the 20 year Navy Seal. In other words, these guys have the absolute highest level of training and years and years of successful combat missions. Think of it this way, if you were learning to play basketball, wouldn't you want Michael Jordan to be your personal coach? Wouldn't it be great to sit down with Kareem or Magic and hear about what worked for them and what didn't? The third reason to learn about successful traders is to give you historical perspective of Wall Street over the last 50 years so you can see exactly what has changed and what has stayed the same. This way you can get an idea of where the art and skill of trading has come from and where it's headed in the future. The goal of this book is to give you insights and experiences from some of the world's very best traders. Let these interviews serve

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as your personal virtual coach. I am certain that what you read will not only entertain you but also actually leapfrog you up your own learning curve. I sincerely hope you enjoy reading this book as much as I enjoyed interviewing these traders.

Thoughts on Machiavelli

In the wake of the monstrous projects of Hitler, Stalin, Mao, and others in the twentieth century, the idea of utopia has been discredited. Yet, historian Jay Winter suggests, alongside the 'major utopians' who murdered millions in their attempts to transform the world were disparate groups of people trying in their own separate ways to imagine a radically better world. This original book focuses on some of the twentieth-century's 'minor utopias' whose stories, overshadowed by the horrors of the Holocaust and the Gulag, suggest that the future need not be as catastrophic as the past. The book is organized around six key moments when utopian ideas and projects flourished in Europe: 1900 (the Paris World's Fair), 1919 (the Paris Peace Conference), 1937 (the Paris exhibition celebrating science and light), 1948 (the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), 1968 (moral indictments and student revolt), and 1992 (the emergence of visions of global citizenship). Winter considers the dreamers and the nature of their dreams as well as their connections to one another and to the history of utopian thought. By restoring minor utopias to their rightful place in the recent past, Winter fills an important gap in the history of social thought and action in the twentieth century.

Machiavelli and the Orders of Violence

By studying Lucretius' poem De Rerum Nature and its impact on literary and political circles in Machiavelli's Florence, this book examines the way that the Lucretian concepts served Machiavelli as revolutionary new materials for the creation of his infamously brutal political science.

Educating the Prince

Machiavelli's ambiguous treatment of religion has fueled a contentious and long-standing debate among scholars. Whereas some insist that Machiavelli is a Christian, others maintain he is a pagan. Sullivan mediates between these divergent views by arguing that he is neither but that he utilizes elements of both understandings arrayed in a wholly new way. In this illuminating study, Sullivan shows Machiavelli's thought to be a highly original response to what he understood to be the crisis of his times.

Machiavelli's Romans

This book brings together for the first time fourteen recent interviews with some of the most important names in contemporary philosophy. Covering a wide range of issues from law to logic and metaphysics to literature, the interviews provide a fascinating introduction to some of the most influential thinkers of the day, and offer a rare opportunity for readers to learn about their views through the relaxed format of conversation.

The Daily Thomas Paine

The political theological problem --the question of whether philosophy or religion holds the ultimate authority over humanity's actions--looms large in several of Heinrich Meier's books. His latest work addresses this problem head-on. Revealed religion, in its claim to truth and demand for obedience, challenges philosophy both politically and theologically. It is, in fact, the most powerful objection that has been raised against philosophy. Meier argues that the proper task of political philosophy is to defend the philosophic way of life and the free and unrestricted questioning it requires. Placed at the work's center is a detailed investigation of Leo Strauss's most complex and controversial book, *Thoughts on Machiavelli*. Here, Strauss relates the problem of Socrates, arguably the starting point of ancient political philosophy, to the problem of Machiavelli, who for many marks the beginning of modern political philosophy. Between Socrates and Machiavelli stands the political and theological challenge of revealed religion. Meier controversially contends that *Thoughts on Machiavelli* revolves around this challenge. The book concludes with a new interpretation of Rousseau's *Social Contract*. Through a close reading of the argument and the structure of the text, Meier shows how Rousseau's most famous work can and should be understood as a coherent political philosophic response to theocracy in the various forms in which it has appeared. For Meier, no other book of a modern philosopher achieves the clarity with which *Social Contract* defines the nature

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and Limits of politics. Finally, this English edition of the book publishes, for the first time, Strauss's headings to each paragraph in *Thoughts on Machiavelli*. "

The Florentine Histories

Since September 11, 2001, long-standing debates over the nature and proper extent of executive power have assumed a fresh urgency. In this book eleven leading scholars of American politics and political theory address the idea of executive power.

Machiavelli's New Modes and Orders

This volume is a multidisciplinary approach to Machiavelli's writings on government, his creative works and his legacy. It is meant for generalists seeking an introduction to Machiavelli and for specialists who are interested in a wide range of disciplinary views.

Machiavelli's Romans

In this classic analysis, Leo Strauss pinpoints what is original and innovative in the political philosophy of Thomas Hobbes. He argues that Hobbes's ideas arose not from tradition or science but from his own deep knowledge and experience of human nature. Tracing the development of Hobbes's moral doctrine from his early writings to his major work *The Leviathan*, Strauss explains contradictions in the body of Hobbes's work and discovers startling connections

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between Hobbes and the thought of Plato, Thucydides, Aristotle, Descartes, Spinoza, and Hegel.

Manliness

Niccolò Machiavelli (1469–1527) is the most famous and controversial figure in the history of political thought and one of the iconic names of the Renaissance. The Cambridge Companion to Machiavelli brings together sixteen original essays by leading experts, covering his life, his career in Florentine government, his reaction to the dramatic changes that affected Florence and Italy in his lifetime, and the most prominent themes of his thought, including the founding, evolution, and corruption of republics and principalities, class conflict, liberty, arms, religion, ethics, rhetoric, gender, and the Renaissance dialogue with antiquity. In his own time Machiavelli was recognized as an original thinker who provocatively challenged conventional wisdom. With penetrating analyses of *The Prince*, *Discourses on Livy*, *Art of War*, *Florentine Histories*, and his plays and poetry, this book offers a vivid portrait of this extraordinary thinker as well as assessments of his place in Western thought since the Renaissance.

Discourses on Livy

A new reading of Machiavelli's major works that demonstrates how he has been previously misread To what extent was Niccolò Machiavelli a "Machiavellian"? Was he an amoral adviser of tyranny

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or a stalwart partisan of liberty? A neutral technician of power politics or a devout Italian patriot? A reviver of pagan virtue or initiator of modern nihilism? Reading Machiavelli answers these questions through original interpretations of Machiavelli's three major political works—The Prince, Discourses, and Florentine Histories—and demonstrates that a radically democratic populism seeded the Florentine's scandalous writings. John McCormick challenges the misguided understandings of Machiavelli set forth by prominent thinkers, including Jean-Jacques Rousseau and representatives of the Straussian and Cambridge schools, and he emphasizes the fundamental, often unacknowledged elements of a vibrant Machiavellian politics. Advancing fresh readings of Machiavelli's work, this book presents a new outlook on how politics should be conceptualized and practiced.

Machiavelli's New Modes and Orders

This volume provides an unequalled introduction to the thought of chief contributors to the Western tradition of political philosophy from classical Greek antiquity to the twentieth century. Written by specialists on the various philosophers, this third edition has been expanded significantly to include both new and revised essays.

Machiavelli's Prince

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Roman thinkers such as Livy. There is thus a fundamental tension between the modern and the ancient within Machiavelli's philosophy; he is both a precursor to the Enlightenment and a throwback to republican Rome. This is the main thesis behind Patrick Coby's innovative study of the neglected Machiavellian classic *Discourses on Livy*. Coby argues that scholars have been too quick to dismiss the ancient antecedents of Machiavelli's thought, particularly with regard to the modes and orders of the Roman republic. The book seeks to resolve the central paradox of the *Discourses*, that Machiavelli recommends adoption of Roman modes and orders even though those modes and orders destroyed the *virtù*, the strength, which Machiavelli would have moderns resuscitate by imitating Rome. A sophisticated, highly engaging book, Machiavelli's *Romans* will be of special interest to political theorists, Renaissance scholars, and classicists.

Seeking Real Truths

Uniting thirty years of authoritative scholarship by a master of textual detail, Machiavelli's *Virtue* is a comprehensive statement on the founder of modern politics. Harvey Mansfield reveals the role of sects in Machiavelli's politics, his advice on how to rule indirectly, and the ultimately partisan character of his project, and shows him to be the founder of such modern and diverse institutions as the impersonal state and the energetic executive. Accessible and elegant, this groundbreaking interpretation explains the puzzles and reveals the ambition of Machiavelli's

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Thoughts on Machiavelli

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Histories, and his plays and poetry, this book offers a vivid portrait of this extraordinary thinker as well as assessments of his place in Western thought since the Renaissance.

The Plebeian Experience

"Modern" philosophy in the West is said to have begun with Bacon and Descartes. Their methodological and metaphysical writings, in conjunction with the discoveries that marked the seventeenth-century scientific revolution, are supposed to have interred both Aristotelian and scholastic science and the philosophy that supported it. But did the new or "modern" philosophy effect a complete break with what preceded it? Were Bacon and Descartes untainted by scholastic influences? The theme of this book is that the new and traditional philosophies have much more in common than the orthodox account suggests. The contributors consider not only modernity in metaphysics and the sciences but also the claims of Machiavelli, Hobbes, and Spinoza to have invented "modern" ethics and politics. These two aspects of "modernity" in philosophy are connected for the first time. The book offers a broad view of the early modern philosophers, covering not only the much-studied major figures but also relatively neglected writers: Mersenne, Gassendi, White, and Sergeant.

Machiavelli's Politics

Lucretius as Theorist of Political Life is an

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interpretation of Lucretius' poem *On the Nature of Things* as a defense of philosophy given the irremediable tension between the competing claims of the philosophic and political life. The central issue is the need for, and attempt by, philosophy to justify and defend its way of life to the political community. This work uncovers how Lucretius' conception of the philosophic life, and the reaction to the human, religious, and political implications of the discovery of nature, distinguish his intention from the anti-theological animus that drives the politically and scientifically ambitious project of his modern appropriators.

Lucretius as Theorist of Political Life

Machiavelli's *Ethics* challenges the most entrenched understandings of Machiavelli, arguing that he was a moral and political philosopher who consistently favored the rule of law over that of men, that he had a coherent theory of justice, and that he did not defend the "Machiavellian" maxim that the ends justify the means. By carefully reconstructing the principled foundations of his political theory, Erica Benner gives the most complete account yet of Machiavelli's thought. She argues that his difficult and puzzling style of writing owes far more to ancient Greek sources than is usually recognized, as does his chief aim: to teach readers not how to produce deceptive political appearances and rhetoric, but how to see through them. Drawing on a close reading of Greek authors--including Thucydides, Xenophon, Plato, and Plutarch--Benner identifies a powerful and

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neglected key to understanding Machiavelli. This important new interpretation is based on the most comprehensive study of Machiavelli's writings to date, including a detailed examination of all of his major works: *The Prince*, *The Discourses*, *The Art of War*, and *Florentine Histories*. It helps explain why readers such as Bacon and Rousseau could see Machiavelli as a fellow moral philosopher, and how they could view *The Prince* as an ethical and republican text. By identifying a rigorous structure of principles behind Machiavelli's historical examples, the book should also open up fresh debates about his relationship to later philosophers, including Rousseau, Hobbes, and Kant.

Executive Power in Theory and Practice

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