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*Politicians invoke grand
ideas: social justice,*

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*democracy, liberty,
equality, community. But
what do these ideas really
mean? How can politicians
across the political
spectrum appeal to the same
values? This new edition of
Adam Swift's highly readable*

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introduction to political philosophy answers these important questions, and includes new material on global justice, feminism, and method in political theory, as well as updated guides to further reading.

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This lively and accessible book is ideal for students, but it also brings the insights of the world's leading political philosophers to a wide general audience. Using plenty of examples, it

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equips readers to think for themselves about the ideas that shape political life. Democracy works best when both politicians and voters move beyond rhetoric to think clearly and carefully about the political

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principles that should govern their society. But clear thinking is difficult in an age when established orthodoxies have fallen by the wayside. Bringing political philosophy out of the ivory tower and within

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the reach of all, this book provides us with tools to cut through the complexities of modern politics. In so doing, it makes a valuable contribution to the democratic process and this new edition will continue to

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*be essential reading for
students of political
philosophy and theory.*

*This book introduces readers
to the concepts of political
philosophy. It starts by
explaining why the subject
is important and how it*

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tackles basic ethical questions such as 'how should we live together in society?' It looks at political authority, the reasons why we need politics at all, the limitations of politics, and whether there

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are areas of life that shouldn't be governed by politics. It explores the connections between political authority and justice, a constant theme in political philosophy, and the ways in which social

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justice can be used to regulate rather than destroy a market economy. David Miller discusses why nations are the natural units of government and whether the rise of multiculturalism and transnational co-operation

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ever see the formation of a
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politically is widely
affirmed, yet how it matters
remains unresolved. This
book aims to settle that
question.
This is the first book to*

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make the philosophy of Hanfei available at an introductory level. This fascinating thinker not only directly influenced the first Chinese Empire, but also embodied the strongest alternative to Confucianism

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in Chinese thought. Even today, his thinking influences China. It introduces key concepts and arguments in Hanfei's legalist philosophy. It also contextualizes this thinking within Chinese history and

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Chinese political
philosophy, as well as to
historians, social and
political scientists.
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this seminal introduction to political philosophy is intended for both the student of political theory and for the general reader. After an introduction which explains the nature and purpose of philosophy, Dr

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Murray provides a critical examination of the principle theories advanced by political philosophers from Plato to Marx, paying special attention to contemporary issues. The book also makes an attempt

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*to define the essential
issues of philosophical
significance in contemporary
politics, with special
reference to the conflict
between political authority
and individual rights, and
to show how the different*

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moral assumptions underlying authoritarian and democratic systems of government are ultimately based upon different theories of logic. This textbook, now in its second edition, is designed to equip students with a

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*basic 'conceptual toolkit'
for the study of political
thought: (i) a basic
political vocabulary, (ii) a
conceptual vocabulary and
(iii) an historical
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introduction to political philosophy, this 2006 book combines discussion of historical and contemporary figures, together with numerous real-life examples. It ranges over an unusually broad range of topics in the

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field, including the just distribution of wealth, both within countries and globally; the nature and justification of political authority; the meaning and significance of freedom; arguments for and against

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democratic rule; the problem of war; and the grounds for toleration in public life. It also offers an accessible, non-technical discussion of perfectionism, utilitarianism, theories of the social contract, and of

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recently popular forms of critical theory. Throughout, the book challenges readers to think critically about political arguments and institutions that they might otherwise take for granted. It will be a provocative

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philosophy, unlike other fields and disciplines, involves conflict, disagreement, deliberation, and action. This text takes a new approach and

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understands philosophy
not so much as a story
of great thinkers or as
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philosophical positions
but as a series of
debates and

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disagreements in which students must participate. Adopting what may be called an 'active learning' method, Richard Schmitt, who has long taught

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social and political
philosophy in the Ivy
Leagues as well at state
colleges, presents a
range of problems and
debates which engage the
core question of

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freedom. Too often,
students are bewildered,
and then bored, by
highly abstract
philosophical questions
because they are unable
to connect those

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abstract issues to their own life experiences. This text immediately connects issues and experiences, and provides integrated, on-going questions to spark

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dialogue, whether in class settings or in the reader's own mind, and to help students form strong arguments with good reasons for their positions. In the course

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of examining different current controversies, the book develops theories of democracy, equality, the state, property, autonomy, and the role of morality in

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politics, all of which are standard for courses in social and political philosophy.

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of political philosophy
not only covers the
major thinkers in the
field but also explores
the theme of how
political philosophy
relates to the nature of

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man. It illustrates how the great political thinkers have always grounded their political thought in what the author terms a "normative

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anthropology," which typically has not only ethical but metaphysical and/or theological components. Starting with the ancient Greek Sophists, author Michael

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J. White examines how thinkers over the centuries have approached such political and philosophical concerns as justice, morality,

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and human flourishing,
offering substantial
studies of--among
others--Plato,
Aristotle, Cicero,
Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau,
Marx, and J. S. Mill.

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White highlights the impact of Christianity on political philosophy, illustrating the diversity of that impact by studies of Augustine, Aquinas, and Marsilius

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much power should the
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enduring and timeless
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influential answers and
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developments in
theorising about race,
sexual orientation,
disability,
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global justice.
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complex. Some try to reduce its complexity by examining it through an ideological worldview, a one-size-fits-all prescriptive formula or a quantitative

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examination of as many
'facts' as possible. Yet
politics cannot be
adequately handled as if
it were made of cells
and particles:
ideological views are

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oversimplifying and
sometimes dangerous.
Politics is not simply a
moral matter, nor
political philosophy a
subdivision of moral
philosophy. This book is

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devised as a basic conceptual lexicon for all those who want to understand what politics is, how it works and how it changes or fails to change. Key concepts

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such as power, conflict, legitimacy and order are clearly defined and their interplay in the state, interstate and global level explored. Principles such as

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*contemporary political
philosophy. } Political
philosophy, perhaps even
more than other branches
of philosophy, calls for
constant renewal to
reflect not just re-*

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critically examine a
range of ideas and to
reach their own
conclusions. Of
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*follows that of most
university courses on
political philosophy, by
looking at the essential
concepts within
political philosophy
(freedom, equality,*

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*power, democracy,
rights, the state,
political obligation),
and then looking at the
ways in which political
philosophers have used
these fundamental*

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*concepts in order to
tackle a range of
normative political
questions such as
whether the state has a
responsibility to
alleviate inequalities,*

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liberal and demovratic
states should take in
the cultural or
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what students are
expected to know.*

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*philosophy explores the
philosophical traditions
which continue to inform
our political
judgements. Dudley
Knowles introduces the
ideas of key political*

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*thinkers including
Hobbes, Locke, Marx and
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contemporary thinkers
such as Berlin, Rawls
and Nozick. He outlines
central problems in*

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*political philosophy and encourages the reader to critically engage with all the issues discussed. The individual chapters discuss and analyse: **

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*utilitarianism * liberty
* rights * justice *
obligation * democracy
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ideally suited to
students taking
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*political theory and
philosophy.*

*Most political debate is
superficial. Just turn
on cable news.*

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who want to understand*

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the deep questions. The goal of political philosophy is to determine the standards by which we judge different institutions good or bad, just or

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*unjust. Some people
might think they don't
have much need of
political philosophy:
"Who cares about wishy-
washy obtuse notions of
justice? I'm a*

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pragmatist. I just want to know what works." But this isn't a way of avoiding political philosophy; it's a way of being dogmatic about it. Before we can just

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do “what works,” we have to know what counts as working. This book serves as an introduction to some of the major theories of justice, to the

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*arguments philosophers
have made for and
against these theories,
and, ultimately, to how
to be more thoughtful
and rigorous in your own
thinking.*

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between the two and the origin of political philosophy as a means of resolution of that tension. Plato and Aristotle are examined in order to see the

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*search for the best
political order. Inquiry
is then made into
political philosophy's
new tension brought
about by the growth of
revealed religion in the*

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Anarchism; and Environmentalism.
It also offers a brief history of political philosophy and the major political philosophers, including Plato, Aristotle, Locke, Rousseau, Hobbes, Marx and Rawls, and, valuably, concludes with a look at

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communitarianism, and feminism. Extended guides to further reading have been added at the end of each chapter, listing the most important books and articles on each school of thought, as well as relevant journals and web sites."--BOOK JACKET.

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Political philosophy is not a well-defined field. It hovers between political theory and classical philosophy. Few early political thinkers could have anticipated the most pressing political issues of our time: the need to stop global

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warming; the reduction of nuclear armaments; the rise of inequality between individuals and nations; and the struggle against authoritarianism, particularly when it comes disguised as democracy or as socialism. Here, celebrated

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**philosopher Mario Bunge
masterfully integrates socio-political
theory into a philosophical
exploration of power and resource
distribution in the world today.
Bunge contends that even recent
political thinkers have generally**

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failed to address the political underpinnings of topical issues. Environmental degradation, gender and race discriminations, participative democracy, nationalism, imperialism, the North-South divide, resource wars, and the

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industrial-military complex have all largely been bypassed in political thinking. Even connections between poverty and environmental degradation, and between inequality and bad health, have escaped the attention of those who would call

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themselves political thinkers. Bunge believes that political philosophers should pay more attention to social indicators, such as the standard index of income inequality and the United Nations human development index. It is pointless to write about

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redistributive policies unless we have a shared understanding of current wealth distribution. This is, in short, a modern treatise on sociopolitical concerns.

This introduction provides a comprehensive and accessible

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overview of the central topics in Latin American philosophy. It explores not only the unique insights offered by Latin American thinkers into pre-established fields of Western philosophy, but also the many 'isms' developed as a direct

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**result of Latin American thought.
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issues in political philosophy, from
the Enlightenment to
Postmodernism. The author presents
both the historical background of,
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This book offers a comprehensive overview of the key concepts and issues of contemporary political philosophy, providing an essential

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**argumentative tools affect the way
substantial issues are addressed. The
chapters are supplemented by
further reading lists and selected
bibliographies to aid further
research. The companion will be
required reading for masters and**

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post-doctoral students, providing them with the appropriate tools for approaching political philosophy in a more thoughtful way, and showing how substantive topics are addressed within different perspectives and paradigms. The companion also

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This book challenges us to look at liberal political ideas in a fresh way. Colin Bird examines the assumption, held both by liberals and by their strongest critics, that the values and ideals of the liberal political tradition cohere around a

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distinctively 'individualist' conception of the relation between individuals, society and the state. He concludes that the formula of 'liberal individualism' conceals fundamental conflicts between liberal views of these

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relations, conflicts that neither liberals nor their critics have adequately recognized. His interesting and provocative study develops a powerful criticism of the libertarian forms of 'liberal individualism' which have risen to

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prominence, and suggests that by taking this term for granted, theorists have exaggerated the unity and integrity of liberal political ideals and limited our perception of the issues they raise.

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