

## Philosophers

The course April 17th 10th  
2014-15

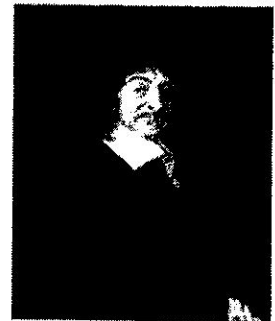
### - Machiavelli

- o Italian
- o 1469 - 1527
- o 1st political scientist
- o Reacting to chaos in Italy
  - City-states were losing power
- o Admired and studied successful rulers
  - Ideal = Caesar Borgia
- o Separated politics and religion
  - What strong rulers do, not what they should do
- o *The Prince*, 1513
  - Most lasting book of the Renaissance
- o Strong rulers
  - Act in their own self-interest
    - Both ruthless and merciful
    - Both forthright and sly
    - Both feared and loved
  - Break promises and treaties
- o **Significance of Machiavelli:**
  - Paved way for absolute monarchs
  - Similar to *realpolitik* of 19th century
  - Interested in the ends and not the means



### - Rene Descartes

- o French
- o 1596-1650
- o Deductive reasoning (general --> detail)
- o Mathematician
  - Inventor of coordinate geometry
- o *Discourse on Method*
  - Doubted all previous knowledge
- o *Cogito ergo sum*
  - "I think, therefore I am"
  - How to prove what we know
- o Paved the way for Scientific Revolution



### - Sir Francis Bacon

- o English
- o 1561-1626
- o *Scientific method*
- o Inductive reasoning (detail --> general)
- o *Insauratio Magna* (Great renewal)
- o *Did not understand mathematics*
- o Reject everything unless you can prove it
- o Little influence on later scientists; but changed the thought process



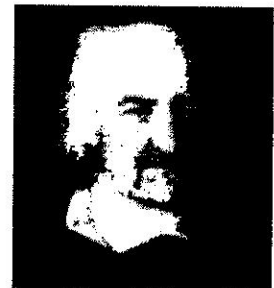
### - John Locke

- English
- 1632 - 1704
- Political scientist
- Basis of democracy
- **State of Nature**
  - Man without government (positive)
  - Man has basic rights
    - ◻ Life
    - ◻ Liberty
    - ◻ Property
- **Social Contract**
  - Government
    - ◻ To protect the rights of man
  - People
    - ◻ Have right to overthrow the government
- **Leviathan**
  - Book about principles of government
- **Tabula Rasa**
  - When we are born our brain is a "*tabula rasa*"
    - ◻ "Clean slate"
    - ◻ No innate ideas (nothing there before birth)
  - **Empiricism**
    - ◻ Environment shapes experience
    - ◻ All knowledge comes from sense experience
    - ◻ Idea of equality
- **Beginning of liberalism**
  - Improve human nature by changing society
  - Confidence in social programs
  - All able to learn
- **Natural Law**
  - 17th century
  - Right vs. Wrong (Right = natural)
  - Universal
    - ◻ No matter of heritage, customs, traditions
  - Discover natural law through reason
  - Law of Nations
  - Idea used both by Locke and Hobbes



### Thomas Hobbes

- English
- 1588 - 1679
- **State of Nature:**
  - Nasty, brutish, quarrelsome and short tempered
  - No capacity for self government
  - Conditions so bad that they lead to social contract with the ruler
  - Chaos
- **Social Contract:**
  - Surrender rights and freedoms to ruler
  - Ruler protects from fear and gives order
  - Absoluter ruler
- **Leviathan**
  - Opposed to Glorious Revolution
    - Once man gives up rights he can never get them back
    - Man can not overthrow the government because he accepted social contract
    - Not allowed to overthrow
    - Disagrees with Glorious Revolution



- Opposed to the fact that people overthrew James II
- Government created by man NOT GOD
  - Man give power to the government
- Absolutist

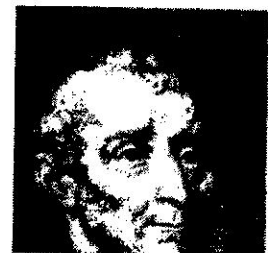
## Voltaire

- French
- 1694 - 1778
- VERY POPULAR - Witty, Optimistic, Sarcastic, Easiest to read
- Bourgeois
- **Accomplishments:**
  - Wrote 70+ books
    - *Grand de*
    - Mocked nobility and philosophers
    - "Tend your own garden"
- **Religious views:**
  - Deist...
    - Great Watchmaker in the Sky
    - God made a watch (earth)... stuck it out and left it alone
    - God made it but is not involved in daily affairs
    - Does not believe in worship
  - Believed in religious toleration
  - Criticized Organized Church
    - *Christ* = religious fanatic
    - *Bible* = work of ignorant men
    - *Miracles* = bunch of lies
    - Clergy was more concerned with privilege and power than morals
    - *Christianity* = history of religious persecution in the name of God
- **Political Views:**
  - BEST government = **Enlightened monarchy**
    - Need strong government
    - People too stupid to rule themselves
    - Ruler should be enlightened
  - Democracy is okay... but not for France
  - Government should
    1. Fight stupidity and laziness
    2. Keep church weak
    3. Protect freedom of thought, religion, and press
- **Social Views:**
  - Source of problems = nobility
  - Get rid of titles of nobility
  - Opposed to slavery
  - Freedom of Thought and press
    - Opposed to censorship
    - *"I do not believe a word you say, but I will defend to the death, your right to say it"*



## Montesquieu

- French
- 1689 - 1755
- Aristocrat
- **Political Scientist:**
  - Studied different governments and culture
    - Concluded that none of them were perfect, but all had good characteristics

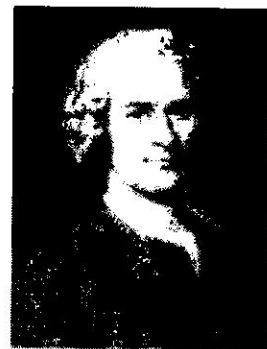


- Critical of absolute monarchy
- Admired British (Constitutionalism) - law is the highest, not the king or ruler
  - ◻ Balance of power
- Wanted to have a little of every government
- Separation of Power: ("Spirit of the Laws" 1748)
  - COMPARED GOVERNMENTS, needs branches
  - Legislative
  - Executive
  - Judicial
  - To prevent abuse of power (balance of powers)
  - From 1689 to 1789
- Very interested in law
  - Everybody must obey law (Even King)
  - "Liberty is doing whatever the laws allow"
- "Persian Letters" ...book
  - Criticized nobles
  - Men are better... but women are reasonable... good for separation of power
  - Travel log
    - ◻ Persians traveling through Europe sending letters back home
  - Escaped censorship this way
- Forms of government vary with the climate??
  - Despotism - hot climates
  - Democracy - cooler climates
- **Social views:**
  - Opposed slavery
    - Violated natural laws
- **Religious views:**
  - Not very religious
  - Church useful for balance of power
  - Pope = magician
  - AGAINST DIVINE RIGHT
    - Power comes from the people



## - Rousseau

- Swiss, lived in France
- 1712 - 1788
- Very poor
  - Misfit, not very popular
  - Sold his kids and wife for cash
- **Publications:**
  - "Emile" - life, education (**empirical**)
  - "Confessions" - society (1782)
  - "Social Contract" - government
- **Religious Views:**
  - Catholic / Protestant (**Religious**)
  - Not deist
  - Tolerant
  - Believed in empiricism
- **Political Views:**
  - Most democratic
  - Man is capable of ruling himself
  - Faith in common man
  - Government should reflect the "**general will**" - majority
  - Pure democracy - everyone would directly participate



- Pure democracy - everyone would directly participate
- Separation of powers
- Some participation

### Robert Owen

- British
- 1771 - 1858
- Owned a cotton factory
- 2 goals
  - Make a profit
  - Treat workers well
- *New Lanark, Scotland*
  - Experimental industrial community
  - Textile mill
  - Good working conditions
    - High wages
    - Decent housing
    - Schools
    - Stores (buy goods at fair prices)
- Successful for short time only
  - Later on it fell apart
  - Tried again
- *New Harmony, Indiana*
  - Experimental agricultural community
  - Good working conditions
  - Failed
    - Workers didn't work as hard
    - Workers took advantage of it
    - Could not sell goods for as cheap
- Equality for women



### Charles Fourier

- French
- 1772-1837
- Philanthropist
- Rival of Saint-Simon
- Art of selling = practice of lying and deception
- Started businesses that failed
- Wanted to free society from bourgeoisie individualism
- 810 personality types
- Goal
  - ◆ To create a community in which people work together for the good of all; self-sufficient
- Agricultural community
  - ◆ Phalanx = community
    - ◇ Self-sufficient
    - ◇ Farm and workshop
    - ◇ Had to be specific size (1620 people)
      - ▶ One man and one woman of each personality type
    - ◇ Channel "passions"
    - ◇ Do jobs that you are best at or work that you enjoyed
      - ▶ Example: criminals would be butchers
    - ◇ Rotate the jobs often
    - ◇ Kids will do the dirty work



- ◊ Share all the profits
- ◆ "Phalanstery" = place where utopians would live
- ◆ None were ever created in France
- ◆ A few were made in other countries
  - ◊ Not through Fourier himself
  - ◊ In United States
  - ◊ Brook Farm - in Massachusetts (1842-1847)
- ◆ Fourier needed funding
- ◆ Failed

### Louis Blanc

- French
- 1811 - 1882
- Political scientist / utopian
- Goal
  - Wanted to create social workshops run by workers
- "Right to Work"
  - Guaranteed by the government
- *The Organization of Work*
  - published
  - Use of competition to eliminate competition
- Universal Suffrage
  - Worker's Party
- *Social workshops*
  - State would help workers
- "From each according to his ability, to each according to his need"
  - Talking about getting paid
  - Society needs all types of people... as long as all try as hard as they can, but pay people according to need



- German
- 1744 - 1803
- Concerning the Origins of Speech
- Cultural organization
  - Ethnic origin
- *Volkgeist*
  - People's spirit
  - Every nation has its own *volkgeist*
- Helped spread German nationalism



- German
- 1762 - 1814
- Philosopher
- Formation of Natural rights
- Approved of French Revolution + Terror
- "German Idealism"
- *Foundations of Natural Right*
  - Published
  - Self-consciousness
- Picked up and took over *Volkgeist*
  - German people were always different
- Inspired aggressive nationalism in Germans towards other groups



**Immanuel Kant**

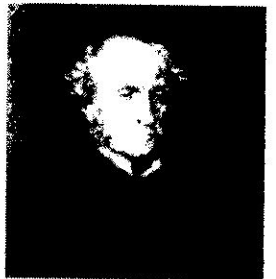
- German
- 1770 - 1831
- Applied logic to philosophy
- His works have a wide range of interpretations
  - "Single most difficult philosopher to understand"
- Science of Logic
- Dialectic
  - "speculative reason"
  - *Thesis + Antithesis = Synthesis*
  - Idea vs. Opposite = Merger = Next thesis
- His works have been interpreted as justifications for revolutions around the world, and have been studied by many successful leaders and political activists seeking to impose change

**Friedrich Nietzsche**

- German
- 1844 - 1900
- Nihilism
- Existence is meaningless
- Destruction of existing Gov. / social institutions is necessary for future growth and improvement
- Secular - "Death of God"
  - *Parable about*, 1888
- Similar to anarchist beliefs, his outlooks were adopted by several reformists socialist and anarchist groups

**John Stuart Mill**

- English
- 1806 - 1873
- Utilitarianism, 1861
- Make working class part of politics
  - Improve living and working conditions
- More liberal
  - Individual freedom
  - Women's rights
  - Universal suffrage (for women too)
  - Protect women and children workers
  - Education by the state
- Protested laissez-faire
  - Against classical economics
  - Women and children taken advantage of
  - Working class suffers
- Notable thinker of 19th Century liberalism

**Jeremy Bentham**

- English
- 1748 - 1832
- Utilitarianism



- Greatest good for the greatest number of people
- Requires government regulation of economy to protect the ones who are being hurt
- Individual economic freedoms
- 19th Century Liberalism
- Women's Rights
- Governmental control of monopolies
- Bentham was one of the first devoted supporters of utilitarianism and he instilled his beliefs in many of his followers and supporters, one being John Stuart Mill



### Edmund Burke

- Irish
- 1729 - 1797
- Member of British Parliament
  - Fought against abuse and misgovernment
- Against natural rights
- *Reflections of the Revolutions of France*
  - Encourages rulers to resist revolutions
- Whig party
- Supported American colonies against George III
- Opposed to the pro-revolutionary "New Whigs" led by Fox
- "Father of Modern Conservatism"



### Jean Paul Sartre

- French
- 1905 - 1980
- Philosopher, playwright
- Existentialism
  - Absurdity of existence
- *Nausea*, 1938
  - Most famous work
  - Makes connections between animate and inanimate worlds
- "Father of Existentialism"



### Herbert Spencer

- English
- 1820 - 1903
- Liberal philosopher / political scientists
- "Father of Social Darwinism"
  - *Survival of the fittest*
- **Social Darwinism**
  - Applied Darwin's ideas to society
  - The strong have the right to abuse the weak
  - Justified class structure of society
  - Imperialistic (global impact)



- German
- 1818-1883
- Critical of utopians





- Said utopians = naive, unscientific
- **Scientific Socialist**
  - Used historical and economical evidence
- Expelled from France
- Studied Hegel
- *Friedrich Engels*
  - Partner
- Capitalism = stage
  - **Class struggle**
    - 18th Century = Nobles vs. Bourgeoisie
    - 19th Century = Bourgeoisie vs. Proletariat
    - *Haves vs. Have-nots*
    - Winner = methods of production
- Capitalism --> Proletariat overthrow Bourgeoisie --> Socialism --> Pure Communism
- **Marx' Flaws:**
  - Classless society not possible
  - Government got bigger instead of disappear
  - Underestimated nationalism
  - Underestimated religion
  - Industrial societies will be first to take up Marxism
  - Human = economic animal
  - Underestimated unions and capitalism



### Vladimir Lenin

- Russian
- 1870 - 1924
- Political scientist
- *What Is to Be Done?*
  - Outline for a revolutionary party
  - Elite group of intellectuals would lead the party
- Radical
- Revolutionary action
  - Russian revolution (leader)
- Reformist Marxism --> Leninism / Leninist communism
  - Party led by Elite
  - Government = communist party
  - Government = owns all industry and business



### Jean Bodin

- French
- 1530 - 1596
- Underlying principles of absolutism
- Believed in divine right
- Calvinist
- Analyzed sovereignty of a state
  - Comes from supernatural power



### Bishop Bossuet

- French
- 1627 - 1704



- Studied politics and theology
- Ruler's authority comes from God alone
  - ◆ Not a contract
- Divine Right of Kings
- Tutor of Louis XIV



### Martin Luther

- German
- 1483 - 1546
- Monk
- Critical of church corruption and superstition
- *Ninety-five Theses*, 1517
  - List of complaints
  - Complaint to Hildebrand, main monk in charge of selling of indulgencies
  - Nailed to church; initially didn't want to break with the church
  - Wanted to have a debate
- BELIEFS:
  - **Priesthood of all believers**
    - individual does not need a priest
  - **Bible = MAIN AUTHORITY**
    - PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
  - **Justification (salvation) by faith alone**
    - Only thing to be saved is a deep faith
    - No need of church, prayer, sacrament
    - All you need is deep love of God
    - Good faith brings good things
  - **Transubstantiation**
    - Priests turn bread and wine into the blood and flesh of God
    - Didn't say that it was just symbolic
    - God present in it, because God present everywhere
  - **Reduced 7 sacraments to 2**
    - Baptism and communion (bread and wine)
  - **AGAINST**
    - Pilgrimages
    - Fasts
    - Masses
    - Saints
    - Monasticism; monks
    - Celibacy for clergy
- **Appealed to:**
  - Princes
    - German particularism / liberties
    - Were now allowed to take all of church property
  - Masses
    - Got a sense of standing up to authority
    - Peasant's Revolt 1524-1525
      - Luther horrified



### John Calvin

- French
- 1509 - 1564
- *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
  - Famous book
  - Appealed to reason/logic
  - Most comprehensive explanation of Protestant belief
- Thought world was in moral crisis
- Worried about "good works" (for church) How much??
  - Wanted to make sure that he got to heaven



- Simplicity
- Rejected iconoclasm
  - Worship of icons and statues of saints
- BELIEFS:
  - **Similar to Luther,**
    - Recognized same abuses of church
    - Opposed to celibacy of clergy
    - No monastic orders
    - Priests not necessary
    - Admired simple piety
  - **Bible = Only source of Xn doctrine**
    - PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
  - **Rejected transubstantiation**
    - Communion = symbolic
  - **Rejected Bishops**
  - **Salvation by election**
    - Those who will be saved are picked by God at birth
    - Predestination
  - **Theocratic / Theocracy**
    - Church should be in charge of the state
  - **Universal, expansionist appeal**
    - Not just Germany like Luther
  - **Puritanical approach to life**
    - Puritans who came to the New World were Calvinists
- **Calvin's Tulip**
  - T. Total Depravity
    - Man full of sin, incapable of saving himself
  - U. Unconditional election
    - God chooses the elect unconditionally, not chose on basis of merit, Predestination
  - L. Limited atonement
    - Only the elect share in Christ's sacrifice
  - I. Irresistible grace
    - When God choose to save someone, he will
  - P. Perseverance of the Saints
    - The Elects cannot lose their elect status
- **Spread of Calvinism**
  - Switzerland
    - Basel, Geneva, Zurich, Bern
  - Scotland
    - John Knox / *Presbyterianism*
  - France
    - *Huguenots*
  - England
    - Puritans
  - Holland
    - Puritans fled
  - New World
    - Puritans fled again
  - **SPREAD MUCH FURTHER THAN LUTHERANISM**
- Weber Thesis
  - Max Weber = German sociologist
  - Calvinism led to the development of Capitalism
    - Calvinism encouraged to work hard and save money
    - Encouraged reinvesting money
    - Protestant work ethic
- Calvinism and Democracy
  - Never venerated the state

- Self governing
- Formed covenants
  - Mayflower Compact
  - Made constitution
- Protected minorities
- Emphasized honest work
- Root of development of democracy

### Henry VIII

- English
- 1491 - 1547
- Wanted a divorce, but the church would not give it to him
- Established Anglican church
  - *Act of Supremacy*
- Anglicanism
  - Ruler became head of Anglican Church
  - Later became more Puritan / Protestant



### Erasmus

- Dutch
- 1466 - 1536
- The greatest Christian Humanist
- Copied the style of the Latins
- Rejected Middle Ages
- Interested in behavior and morality
- Used satire in writing - to expose weaknesses of church
- Talked about peace, education
- Critical of hypocrisy
- NEVER totally rejected the church
- *In Praise of Folly*
  - Criticized clergy
  - His most famous book
  - Satirical, makes fun of church values



### Ignatius Loyola

- Spanish
- 1491 - 1556
- Started society of jesuits
- Scholarly priests
- Mission: spread Catholicism, halt Protestant Reformation
- *Spiritual Exercises*
  - Published
- Became a saint
- The Jesuits later set up societies in the colonized world to convert the indigenous people to Christianity



### John Wycliffe

- English
- 1328 - 1384
- Prior to the reformation
- During the "Great Schism"
  - Controversy over having more than one pope claiming authority
- Asked for reforms within the church
- Paved the way for the reformation



- Czech



- 1369 - 1415
- Religious reformer
- Studied Wycliffe
- Opposed to the papal schism
- Excommunicated by the church and later burned at the stake
  - Council of Constance



### Sir Thomas More

- English
- 1478 - 1535
- Lawyer, politician
- Northern Humanist
- Wrote *Utopia*
- Refused to give Henry VIII a divorce and got executed
- Later became a saint



- Swiss
- 1484 - 1531
- Iconoclast (no icons)
- Similar to Calvin
- Believed that the Eucharist was a symbol
- Literal interpretation of the Bible
- Died in battle



### John Tetzel

- Germanic
- 1465 - 1519
- Studied religion, gained high rank in the church
- Sale of indulgences
  - Fraud
  - Excused sins for money
  - Corruption of the clergy
  - Made many people dissatisfied
- Caused Martin Luther to write the 95 Thesis



- Austrian
- 1860 - 1904
- Jewish
- Father of Zionism
  - Creation of a modern Jewish state
- Politically active
  - Tried to achieve success
  - Attended conferences
  - Started activist groups



### Baruch Spinoza

- Dutch
- 1632 - 1677
- Criticized the bible
- Born Jewish, but questioned
- Pantheism
  - God is everywhere
  - God and nature are equal

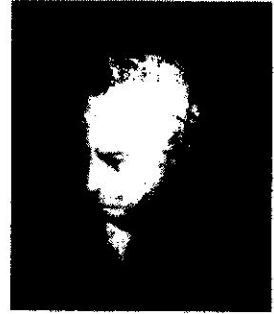


**Gottfried Leibniz**

- German
- 1646 - 1716
- Very intelligent and well educated
- Studied mathematics
  - Very successful
- Formulated calculus
  - Independently of Newton
- Crucial contributor to the advancement of mathematical science

**Immanuel Kant**

- German
- 1724 - 1804
- One of the greatest philosophers of all time
- *Critique of Pure Reason*, 1781
  - Rationalism
    - Gathering rational input
- Came up with a series of rational formulations
- Studied excessively even today
  - Studied by later influential figures (Marx, Lenin, etc.)

**Auguste Comte**

- French
- 1798 - 1857
- Believed in the promise of science
  - 3 stages
    - Theological
    - Metaphysical
    - Positive
- Positivism
  - Facts more vital than theory
  - Applications of the scientific method

