

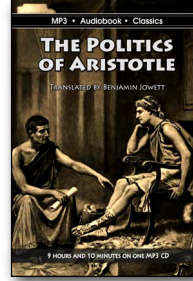
The Republic of Plato

Author: Plato (c. 428 BC - c. 347 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817 - 1893)
Read by: Bob Neufeld
Length: 12 hours 23 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Republic is the greatest and best known of Plato's works and probably the most influential work of philosophy in history. Its ten books of dialogues between Socrates and various Athenians and foreigners address the question of whether a just man or unjust man achieves the greatest happiness by considering the governance and culture of a series of hypothetical cities. Jowett writes in his introduction that "The principles of definition, the law of contradiction, the fallacy of arguing in a circle,

the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.

Catalog: DB-1111
UPC: 0684758936653
MSLP: \$12.99

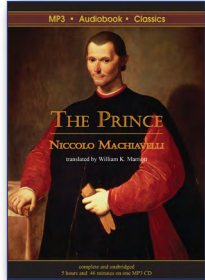


The Politics of Aristotle

Author: Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817-1893)
Read by: Geoffrey Edwards
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 9 hours and 10 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy

The Ethics of Aristotle describes the means to the happy life of virtue intended by nature. In *The Politics of Aristotle* he describes the vital role the political community plays in fostering the well-being of its citizens. In doing so he surveys the types of communities and governments that existed and how many fall short of the ideal, which is a constitutional form. While many of his precepts and goals may seem unusual and outdated today, there is much that stands the test of time, in particular his belief in the need for active participation in politics, in the relationship of the well-being of the people to that of the community, and his analysis of factors that bring about stability and revolution. Many of the issues raised, notably the importance of the middle class and the role of wealth in a democracy, are as relevant today as they were then.

Catalog: DB-1162
UPC: 0683422134777
MSLP: \$11.99



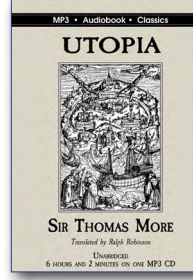
The Prince

Author: Niccolò Machiavelli (1469 - 1527)
Translated by William K. Marriott
Read by: Paul Adams
Length: 5 hours 47 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science

Niccolò Machiavelli broke the mold when he wrote *The Prince*, an ostensibly traditional work in the style of books written for princes. Written in the Italian vernacular for all to read, it speaks truth to power about power: the truth about how "things really work" in the sphere of power, politics, leadership and governance. Most advances in man's progress occur when the thinkers of their time look at the world as it is and not as they might want it to be. It's the difference between the declarative and the subjunctive modes – the difference between "this

is this" and "the would, could, shoulds" of a fantasy land. Princes obtain and retain power over their subjects using tactics with little or no consideration for ethics or the strictures of the then dominant faith. And those who argue to the contrary will be the ones without power. In saying so *The Prince* was and remains groundbreaking and subversive. And required reading for anyone active or interested in public life.

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UPC: 0684758936189
MSLP: \$9.99

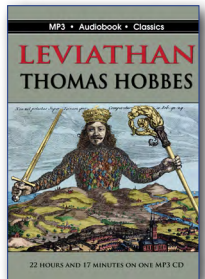


Utopia

Author: Sir Thomas More (1478 - 1535)
Translated by: Ralph Robinson (1520 - 1577)
Read by: Ruth Golding
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 6 hours 2 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Satire

Sir Thomas More invented the word "utopia" by blending the Greek words meaning "no place" as a title for his fictional work of political philosophy. Raphael, a voyager, describes the customs he observed during a five year journey to Utopia, a mythical island in the New World with representative government and no private property. Dwellings are rotated. Meals are communal. Everyone wears the same clothes. Men and women are equals. Everyone works six hours a day. Each household has two slaves. There are no lawyers. Health care is free. Multiple religions are tolerated. Priests can marry, couples may divorce, but premarital sex is punished by lifelong celibacy and adulterers are enslaved. Written in Latin and published in 1516 in Belgium, the book was not published in England until 1551, sixteen years after More's death. Many of the concepts stand in direct opposition to More's beliefs as a devout Catholic. Most see it as a satirical commentary on the evils of European society and influence on later works such as Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and *Candide* by Voltaire.

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MSLP: \$9.99

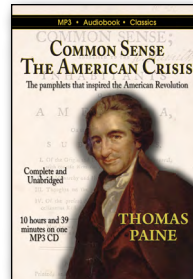


Leviathan

Author: Thomas Hobbes (1588 - 1679)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 22 hours and 27 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy

Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* is a classic work of statecraft and political philosophy on the order of *The Prince*. The book is divided into four parts. Part 1, Of Man, is a description of human nature, material and psychological, in which the state of nature is a war of all against all. Part 2, Of Common-wealth, articulates the social contract that gives rise to an effective government and social order. Part 3, Of a Christian Common-wealth, delves into the problem of the relationship of church and state. Part 4, Of the Kingdom of Darkness, describes four causes of the "darkness of ignorance" that suppress the light of true knowledge. While Hobbes advocates for an absolute monarchy on rational grounds, he also introduces aspects of the social contract now fundamental to liberal political philosophy: the artificial nature of any political form, the right of the individual, the natural equality of all, the notion of political power as "representative" of the people and the corresponding need for the consent of those governed.

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UPC: 0701236969207
MSLP: \$9.99



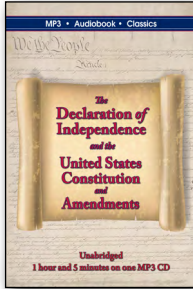
Common Sense and the American Crisis

Author: Thomas Paine
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 10 hours and 35 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: History, Political Philosophy

This volume contains the pamphlets by Thomas Paine that inspired the American Revolution. *Common Sense* argued for seeking independence from Britain when the matter was the issue of the day. Reasoned and written in a clear, simple style, Paine structured *Common Sense* as a sermon to make his case, drawing together the drive for independence with prevailing dissenting Protestant tenets to forge a uniquely American political identity. Published January 10, 1776, it became an instant sensation. The first of sixteen *The American Crisis* pamphlets published during the American Revolution begins with "These are the times that try men's souls....". Signed "Common Sense", Paine's writings clarified the issues, improved morale, appealed to the good sense of the English and argued against a negotiated peace. George Washington had it read aloud to the Continental Army before the Battle of Trenton to bolster morale.

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MSLP: \$12.99

Political Science



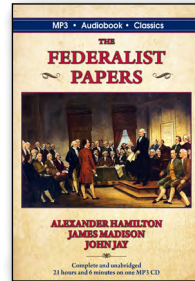
The Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution and Amendments

Author: Thomas Jefferson, The Constitutional Convention
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, History

The Declaration of Independence is a list of grievances against King George II and the assertion of natural and legal rights designed to explain why the Congress had voted to declare independence. Thomas Jefferson composed the declaration under the editorial supervision of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. *The United States Constitution* articulates the structure and powers of the federal government and serves as the supreme law of the land. It originally consisted of seven

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MSLP: \$9.99

articles. The document was created by the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, ratified in 1788 and put into force in 1789. The original language of the articles and all amendments remain intact and can only be modified by a succeeding amendment. This practice was put into force with the first series of ten amendments ratified in 1791 that are known as the *Bill of Rights*, an articulation of rights not defined in the seven articles of the constitution. There are twenty-seven amendments in all.

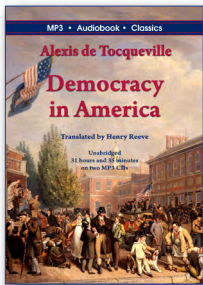


The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

Catalog: DB-1190
UPC: 0683422134937
MSLP: \$14.99

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787. The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

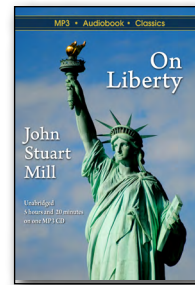


Democracy in America

Author: Alexis de Tocqueville Trans. by Henry Reeve
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
Length: 31 hours and 4 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Sociology, History

In 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville traveled the United States making a broad survey of the character of the young nation. In 1835 he published the first of two volumes of *Democracy in America*. He begins by noting the equality brought about by an egalitarian clergy, the abolition of primogeniture, and the growth of commerce. The first volume dwells on political analysis of why a democratic republic has succeeded in America, citing separation of church and state, respect for women, and economic mobility as critical factors. The second volume (1840) treats civil laws and society in a similar manner. The book is often cited for its insights, such as a concern for the tyranny of the majority, the acrimony over the abolition of slavery, the emergence of the United States and Russia as the dominant world powers, and the rise of the industrial elite. Harvard professor Harvey C. Mansfield described it as "at once the best book ever written on democracy and the best book ever written on America."

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UPC: 0683422134784
MSLP: \$19.99

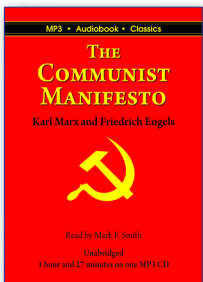


On Liberty

Author: John Stuart Mill (1806 - 1873)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 20 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Political Philosophy

Catalog: DB-1173
UPC: 0683422134920
MSLP: \$11.99

On Liberty (1859) remains one of the most articulate and influential works on the relationship of authority and liberty. The central idea is that an individual should be free to pursue his own interests so long as the resulting action does not harm others. He defines three basic liberties: freedom of thought, emotion and expression; freedom to pursue one's taste; and freedom to associate with others. He proposes three reasons to justify resistance to government actions: if private agents can perform an action better than government; if the action benefits the agents even when the government is qualified; and, if the action adds to the power of government so that it becomes over-reaching or creates dependency in its subjects. The last chapter deals with the issue of individual accountability to society. The book was hugely popular when published and continues to appeal due to its lucid analysis, accessible prose and compelling model of society.

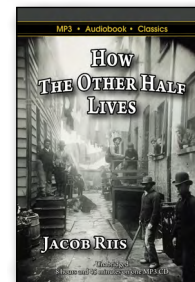


The Communist Manifesto

Author: Friedrich Engels (1820-1895) & Karl Marx (1838-1911)
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 27 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Economics, Political Philosophy

The Communist Manifesto is a short pamphlet that articulated Marx and Engels' theories about class struggle in society and politics, the problems of capitalism, and how capitalism would eventually evolve into socialism. There are four sections. The first elucidates the materialist concept of history, in which an oppressed proletariat majority lives under the dominion of an oppressive bourgeois minority. The second positions communists as advocates for the general will of the working class and proposes the abolition of private property and the adoption of state-owned production, universal employment, free public education, centralized banking and credit, and nationalized communication and transportation. The third distinguishes communism from other socialist doctrines of the time. The fourth briefly discusses the struggles in specific countries, predicts a world revolution, and calls for unified international proletarian action. The Manifesto arose at the time of revolutions across Europe in 1848 and fell into obscurity until the Paris Commune of 1871, after which it grew in popularity along with the growth of social-democratic parties across Europe, culminating in the Russian Revolution in 1917.

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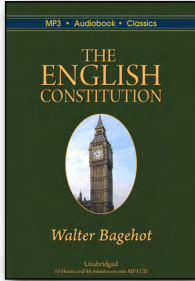
How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

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UPC: 0683422134548
MSLP: \$11.99

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

Political Science



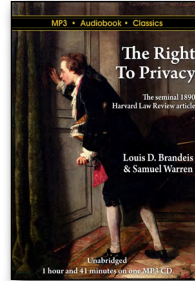
The English Constitution

Author: Walter Bagehot (1826-1877)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 10 hours and 48 minutes
Genre: Political Science, Law

The United Kingdom has no single document that sets forth the structure and governance of the body politic. The term "constitution" instead refers to a collection of laws and principles drawn from statutes, common law, parliamentary convention and works of authority that define the relationship between the individual and the state and the functioning of the legislature, the executive and the judicial branches of government. *The English Constitution* is considered by many to be the most definitive work on the subject. The focus is on the functioning of Parliament and the Monarchy, defining the rights of the monarch, and dividing the principles into two groups, the dignified and the efficient. Bagehot gives considerable attention to the contrasts between the British and American systems, finding considerable flaws and absurdities in the American methods, particularly the lack of flexibility and accountability and the fact that Congress cannot effect a change of government. The book was an inspiration for Woodrow Wilson's Congressional Government: A Study in American Politics and is a standard guidebook for British monarchs past, present and future.

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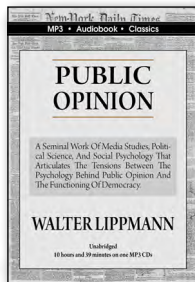
The Right to Privacy

Author: Louis D. Brandeis and Samuel Warren
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Length: 52 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Philosophy, Law

Inspired by the coverage of intimate details of private lives made possible by instantaneous photography and mass circulation of newspapers, *The Right to Privacy* (1890) is the first essay that argued for an inherent right to privacy, the "right to be left alone." The core argument is an extension of the fundamental right of the individual to full protection in person and property, principles continually reconfigured in light of political, social and economic change, in much the same way

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that definitions of protection against bodily harm and protection of property were expanded. Libel, slander, and intellectual property law are considered as possible protections and found inadequate. The argument examines case law and attempts to define privacy itself, and finally imposes limitations on the protection. *The Right to Privacy* is especially relevant today as new technologies and business models seek ever more personal data and threats of terror invoke escalating surveillance tactics.



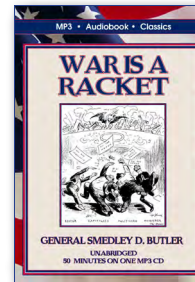
Public Opinion

Author: Walter Lippmann
Read by: progressingamerica
Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

The 21st century has produced an exponential growth in the volume and complexity of communications. The growth of social media and decline of mainstream media has given rise to concerns about information "echo chambers", entrenched partisanship, and disagreement on and even dismissal of fundamental facts. Given this, there is no better time to revisit Walter Lippmann's *Public Opinion* (1922). Considered "the founding book of modern journalism" and "the founding book in American media studies", it is an astute analysis

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of the irrational and self-serving perceptions that drive individual behavior and impede social progress. Lippmann argues that the power of propaganda and the expertise needed to understand public affairs renders traditional ideas of democracy untenable. To combat that, he challenged journalism to engage in the "manufacture of consent", to parse issues and events as accurately and objectively as possible to help society cope and make more effective political decisions. The message resonates today as much as ever, perhaps even more so.

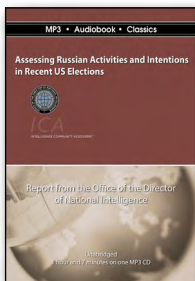


War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 50 minutes
Genre: Economics, History, Eassays, War & Military

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as *War Is A Racket*. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters. The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.

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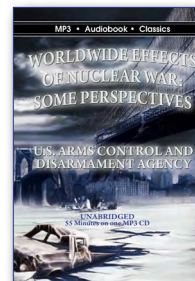
Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions In Recent U. S. Elections

Author: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 7 minutes
Genre: History

The 2016 United States Presidential Election was one of the closest, nastiest, and most contentious in the history of the country. The narrow victory of Donald J. Trump was an unprecedented upset. When Wikileaks released thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee and the Republican platform became surprisingly friendly to Russia, it became evident that extraordinary forces were at play and influencing the public conversation.

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After the election President Obama ordered the three major intelligence agencies to coordinate their findings and report them to key persons in the US Government. The classified report was shared with the Executive branch, the Congress and the President-elect in early January. A shortened, declassified version with the same assessments was released at the same time. That report, entitled *Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections*, is read here verbatim. It reveals that the Russian activities were deliberate, extensive, and originated at the very top of the Russian government.



Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
Read by: Alyson Hester
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 55 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

In 1974 the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to produce a study that became Long-Term Worldwide Effects of Multiple Nuclear Weapons Detonations. The report ran to over 200 pages, so the Agency produced an abbreviated version of the study which conveyed its essential findings along with information from other studies and basic background facts. The Academy found that a massive attack with multiple detonations was likely to create such

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widespread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.