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Democracy: Reading List

The people of England regards itself as free; but it is grossly mistaken; it is free only during the election of members of parliament. As soon as they are elected, slavery overtakes it, and it is nothing. The use it makes of the short moments of liberty it enjoys shows indeed that it deserves to lose them. (Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Bk 3, Ch 15)

Aims of the Course/Course Outline

The course is designed to address some fundamental issues and problems in democratic theory: what is a democracy?; why is democracy valued?; can the critics of democracy be answered?

We will begin by looking at some of the apparent tensions within democratic theory, and briefly at Plato's criticisms of democracy. In the process of attempting to answer Plato we will look at various intrinsic and instrumental defences of democracy.

*Brian Barry, 'The Public Interest', in A. Quinton ed. *Political Philosophy*.

Duncan Black, *The Theory of Committees and Elections*, appendix

Joshua Cohen, 'Reflections on Rousseau: Autonomy and Democracy', *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 15, 1986.

Joshua Cohen, 'Moral Pluralism and Political Consensus', in D. Copp, J Hampton and J. Roemer ed. *The Idea of Democracy*.

*Thomas Christiano, *The Rule of the Many*.

Robert A. Dahl, *A Preface to Democratic Theory*

Robert A. Dahl, *Democracy and Its Critics*

*Jon Elster, 'The Market and the Forum', in *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Anthology* ed. R.E.

Goodin and P. Pettit.

*David Estlund, 'Making Truth Safe for Democracy', in D. Copp, J Hampton and J. Roemer ed. *The Idea of Democracy*.

Keith Graham, *The Battle of Democracy* Part 1

Amy Gutman, 'Democracy' in *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy* ed. R.E. Goodin and P. Pettit.

Ross Harrison, *Democracy* Chs 1, 2, 4 8-12.

Carole Pateman, *Participation and Democratic Theory*

*Plato, *The Republic* (esp Book Six)

*John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, section 54.

*Cass Sunstein, 'Democracy and Shifting Preferences', in D. Copp, J Hampton and J. Roemer ed. *The Idea of Democracy*.

*Jeremy Waldron, 'Rights and Majorities: Rousseau Revisited', *NOMOS XXXII: Majorities and Minorities* 1990, also in Waldron's *Liberal Rights*.

Jonathan Wolff *Introduction to Political Philosophy*, Chapter 3.

*Jonathan Wolff, 'Democratic Voting and the Mixed Motivation Problem', *Analysis* 1994.

Jonathan Wolff, 'John Rawls: Liberal Democracy Restated', in *Liberal Democracy and Its Critics* ed. A. Carter and G. Stokes.

Richard Wollheim, 'A Paradox in the Theory of Democracy', *Politics, Philosophy and Society*, second series, edited by P. Laslett and G. Runciman.