Philosophers

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

**Rene Descartes**
- French
  - 1598-1650
- Deductive reasoning
  - General to specific
- Mathematical
  - Inventor of coordinate geometry
- **Discourse on Method**
  - Doubted all previous knowledge
  - Cogito ergo sum
    - “I think, therefore I am”
    - How to prove what we know
- Paved way for scientific revolution

**Sir Francis Bacon**
- English
  - 1561-1626
- **Scientific method**
- Inductive reasoning
  - Detail to general
- **Insauratio Magna**
  - Great renewal
- **Did not understand mathematics**
  - Reject everything unless you can prove it
  - 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 governments (positive)
  - Man has basic rights
    - Life
    - Liberty
    - Property
- Social contract
  - Government
  - To protect the rights of man
  - People
    - Have right to overthrow the government
- Two treaties on government
  - Book about principle of government

Essay Concerning Human Understanding
- When we are born our brain is a “tabula rasa”
  - “Clean slate”
  - No innate ideas (nothing before birth)
- Empiricism
  - Environment shapes experience
  - All knowledge comes from sense experience
  - Idea of equity
- 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 though reason
- Law of Nation
  - Idea used by both 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 led to social contract with the ruler
  - Chaos
- Social contract
  - Surrender rights and freedom to ruler
  - Ruler protects from fear and gives order
Absoluter ruler

**Leviathan, 1651**
- Opposed to Glorious Revolution
  - Once a man gives up rights he can never get them back
  - Man cannot 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 gives power to the government
- Absolutist

**Voltaire**
- French
  - 1694-1778
- **Very popular**- witty, optimistic, sarcastic, easiest to read
- **Bourgeois**
- **Accomplishments:**
  - Wrote 70+ books
- **Candide**
  - Mocked nobility and philosophers
  - “Tend your own garden”
  - Religious view:
    - **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 tolerance
    - Criticized organized church
      - Christ = religious fanatic
      - Bible = bunch of lies
      - 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 fight stupidity and laziness
  - Keep church week
  - 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 in what you say, but I will defend to the death, for 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 have 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)
      - Constitution of USA
- 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 capable ... good or separation of power
    - Travel log
      - Persians traveling throughout Europe sending letters back home
      - Escapes censorship this way
- Forms of government may vary with climate???
  - Despotism – hot climate
  - Democracy – cooler climates
- Social views:
  - Opposed to 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
  - Separation of powers
    - Some separation

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
      - 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 a free society from bourgeoisie individualism
- 810 personality types
- Goals
  - 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 should be butchers
      - Rotate the jobs often
        - Kids will do the dirty work
    - Share all profits
    - “Phalanastery” = 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 great 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
- Workers 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 they all try as hard as they can, but pay people according to need

**Gottfried von Herder**
- 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

**Johann Gottlieb Fichte**
- German
  - 1744-1814
- Philosopher
  - Formation of Natural rights
  - Approved of French Revolution + terror
  - “German Idealism”
- *Foundations of Natural Rights*
  - Published
  - Self-consciousness
  - Picked up and took over Volkgeist
    - German people were always different
      - Inspired aggressive nationalism

**Friedrich Hegel**
- 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 reasoning”
    - 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

**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”
- *The Antichrist*, 1888
  - Similar to the anarchist beliefs, his outlooks were adopted by several reformists, socialists, and anarchist groups
John Stuart Mill
- English
  - 1806-1873
- *Utilitarianism*, 1861
  - Make working class a 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 one who are being hurt
  - Individual economic freedoms
- 19th century Liberalism
  - Women’s rights
  - Government 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 Burk
- Irish
  - 1729-1797
- Member of the 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 King 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 scientist
  - "Father of Social Darwinism"
    - Survival of the fittest
- **Social Darwinism**
  - Applied Darwin’s theory to society
  - The strong have the right to abuse the weak
    - Justified class structure
    - Imperialistic (global impact)

**Karl Marx**
- **German**
  - 1818-1883
- Critic of Utopians
  - Said Utopians = naïve, 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
      - Have’s and Have nots
        - Winner = methods of production
- Capitalism → Proletariat overthrows Bourgeoisie → Socialism → Pure Communism
- **Marx’ Flaws:**
  - Classless society not possible
  - Government got bigger instead of disappear
  - 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 Marxist → Leninists communist
  - 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’s corruption and superstition
- Ninety-Five Theses, 1517
  - List of complaints
  - Complaint to Tetzel, main monk in charge of selling indulgences
  - Nailed to church; initially didn’t want to break with 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
    - One thing to be saved in a deep faith
    - No need of church, prayer, or sacrament
  - ALL you need is deep love for God
    - Good faith brings good things
  - Transubstantiation
    - Priests turn bread and wine into blood and flesh of God
- **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
    - We are now allowed to take all of church property
  - Masses
    - Got a sense of standing up to authority
      - Peasants Revolts 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
        - Worries about “good works” (for church) How much??
      - Wanted to make sure that he got to heaven
        - Simplicity
        - **Rejected** iconoclasm
  - **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 Christian doctrine**
      - PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
    - **Rejected** transubstantiation
      - Communion = symbolic
    - **Rejected** bishops
    - **Salvations by election**
      - Those who should be in charge of the state
    - **Universal, Expansionist appeal**
      - Not just Germany, like Luther
      - **Puritanical approached 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 can share in Christ’s sacrifice
- **I: Irresistible grace**
  - When God choose to save someone, he will
- **P: Perseverance of saints**
  - The elect cannot loose their elect status

- **Spread of Calvinism**
  - Switzerland
    - Basel, Geneva, Zurich, Bern
  - Scotland
    - John Knox/ Presbyterian
  - 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 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 constitutions
    - 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 Latin
    - Rejected Middle Ages
- Interested in behavior and morality
  - Used satire in writing – to expose weakness of the 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 Jesuit 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
      - Asked for reforms within the church
        - Paved the way for the reformation

John Hus
- 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 saint

**Huldreich Zwingli**
- Swiss
  - 1484- 1531
- Iconoclast (no icon)
  - 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 indulgencies
  - Fraud
  - Excused sins for money
  - Corruption of the clergy
    - Made many people dissatisfied
    - Caused Martin Luther to write the 95 Theses

**Theodor Herzl**
- 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

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