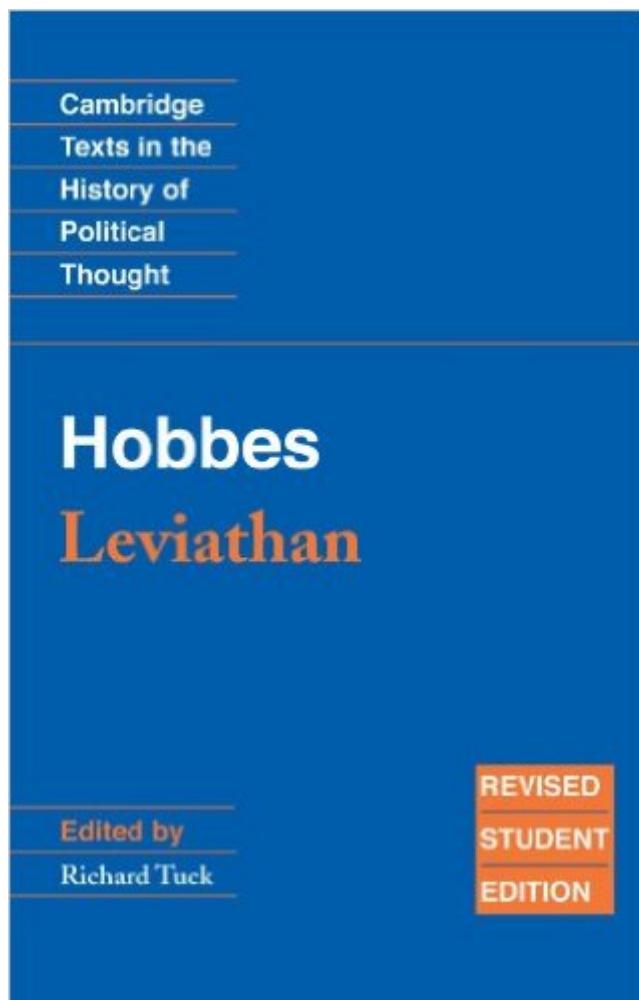


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Hobbes: Leviathan: Revised Student Edition (Cambridge Texts In The History Of Political Thought)



Synopsis

Hobbes' Leviathan is arguably the greatest piece of political philosophy written in the English language. Since its first publication, Richard Tuck's edition of Leviathan has been recognized as the single most accurate and authoritative text, and for this revised edition Professor Tuck has provided a much-amplified and expanded introduction. Other vital study aids include an extensive guide to further reading, a note on textual matters, a chronology of important events and brief biographies of important persons mentioned in Hobbes' text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) was an English philosopher, best known for his work in political philosophy. This 1651 book Leviathan established what became known as "social contract theory." He wrote in the book's Dedication, "the endeavour to advance the civil power should not be by the civil power condemned; nor private men, by reprehending it, declare that they think that power too great. Besides, I speak not of the men, but... of the seat of power... That which perhaps may most ordinarily offend are certain texts of Holy Scripture, alleged by me to other purpose than ordinarily they used to be by others. But I have done it with due submission, and ... necessarily; for they are the outworks of the enemy, from whence they impugn the civil power." He observes, "whereas in the planting of Christian religion ... the number of Christians increased wonderfully every day and in every place by the preaching of the Apostles and Evangelists, a great part of that success may

reasonably be attributed to the contempt into which the priests of the Gentiles of that time had brought themselves by their uncleanness, avarice, and juggling between princes. Also the religion of the Church of Rome was partly for the same reason abolished in England and many other parts of Christendom, insomuch as the failing of virtue in the pastors maketh faith fail in the people... I may attribute all the changes of religion in the world to one and the same cause, and that is unpleasant priests; and those not only amongst catholics, but even in that Church that hath presumed most of reformation." (Ch.

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