

# **Reading List for Politics Majors**

## **Global History/Politics**

[Empire of Cotton, by Sven Beckert](#)

[Global Rift, by LS Stavrianos](#)

[The Origin of Capitalism, Ellen Meiksins Wood](#)

[The Age of Revolution, by Eric Hobsbawm](#)

[The Age of Capital, by Eric Hobsbawm](#)

[The Age of Empire, by Eric Hobsbawm](#)

[The Age of Extremes, by Eric Hobsbawm](#)

[Neoliberalism, David Harvey](#)

[Development as Freedom, Amartya Sen](#)

[The Darker Nations, Vijay Prashad](#)

[The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism, Naomi Klein](#)

[The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger, Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett](#)

[How Europe Underdeveloped Africa, Walter Rodney](#)

[Global Transformations, David Held](#)

[Europe and the People Without History, Eric Wolf](#)

[Imperialism and the Developing World, Atul Kohli](#)

[Divide: Global Inequality from Conquest to Free Markets, Jason Hickel](#)

[The Making of Global Capitalism: Political Economy of the American Empire, Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin](#)

[Debt, the IMF and the World Bank, Eric Toussaint and Damien Millet](#)

[Imagined Communities, Benedict Anderson](#)

[The Dynamics of Global Dominance: European Overseas Empires, 1415-1980, David Abernathy](#)

[The Silk Roads: A New History of the World, Peter Frankopan](#)

[Open Veins of Latin America, Eduardo Galeano](#)

## **US History/Politics**

[A People's History of the United States, Howard Zinn](#)

[Democracy for the Few, Michael Parenti](#)

[American Society: How it Really Works, Erik Olin Wright and Joel Rogers](#)

[Which Side are You On?, Stephen Shalom](#)

[The Great Evasion, William Appleman Williams](#)

[The “S” Word: A Short History of an American Tradition...Socialism, John Nichols](#)

[Democracy at Work: A Cure for Capitalism, Richard Wolff](#)

[The Cost of Rights: Why Liberty Depends on Taxes, Stephen Holmes and Cass Sunstein](#)

[The Myth of the Free Market: The Role of the State in a Capitalist Economy, Mark Martinez](#)

[The Federalist Papers, Clinton Rossiter](#)

[The US Constitution: Two Hundred Years of...Criticism, Bertell Ollman](#)

[The Power Elite, C. Wright Mills](#)

[How Democratic is the US Constitution, Robert Dahl](#)

[Regulating the Poor, Piven and Cloward](#)

## **US Foreign Policy**

[“Imperium” article New Left Review, Perry Anderson](#)

[Overthrow: America’s Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq, Stephen Kinzer](#)

[Killing Hope: US Military and CIA Interventions Since World War II, William Blum](#)

[Against Empire, Michael Parenti](#)

[Clash of Fundamentalisms, Tariq Ali](#)

[The Global Cold War, Odd Arne Westad](#)

[Harvest of Empire, Juan Gonzalez](#)

[Devil’s Game: How the US Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam, Robert Dreyfuss](#)

[Empire’s Workshop: Latin America, the US and the Rise of the New Imperialism, Greg Grandin](#)

## **Political Philosophy/Theory and Ideology**

[Political Ideologies and the Democratic Ideal, Terence Ball and Richard Dagger](#)

[Models of Democracy, David Held](#)

[Political Theory and the Modern State, David Held](#)

[Democracy Against Capitalism; Citizens and Lords; Liberty and Property, Ellen Meiksins Wood \(and other books by her are great wedding of politics and history\)](#)

[The Politics of Inequality, Michael Thompson](#)

[Marx-Engels Reader, Robert Tucker](#)

[Liberalism: A Counter History, Domenico Losurdo](#)

[Adventures in Marxism, Marshall Berman](#)

[Escape From Freedom, Erich Fromm](#)

[Class Matrix, Vivek Chibber](#)

[Confronting Capitalism, Vivek Chibber](#)

[Critical Theories of the State: Marxist, Neo-Marxist, Post-Marxist, Clyde Barrow](#)

[The Power Elite, C.W. Mills](#)

[The Market as Prison, Charles Lindblom](#)

[Power: A Radical View, Steven Lukes](#)

[The Worldly Philosophers, Robert Heilbroner](#)

[The Sexual Contract, Carole Pateman](#)

[The Second Sex, Simone De Beauvoir](#)

[Caribbean Political Thought: The Colonial State to Caribbean Internationalism, Aaron Kamugisha \(editor\)](#)

[The Republic, Plato](#)

[Politics, Aristotle](#)

[The Prince, Machiavelli](#)

[Leviathan, Thomas Hobbes](#)

[Two Treatise on Government, John Locke](#)

[The Origin of Inequality, Jean Jacques Rousseau](#)

[The Lenin Anthology, V.I. Lenin](#)

[From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology, H.H. Gerth and C.W. Mills](#)

[Wretched of the Earth, Franz Fanon](#)

[One Dimensional Man, Herbert Marcuse](#)

## **Race/Ethnicity/Gender**

[When Affirmative Action Was White, Ira Katznelson](#)

[How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America, Manning Marble](#)

[The Invention of the White Race, Theodore Allen](#)

[An Indigenous People's History of the United States, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz](#)

[Feminism Seduced, Hester Eisenstein](#)

[Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal, Aviva Chomsky](#)

[A Freedom Budget for All Americans, Paul Le Blanc and Michael Yates](#)

[Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community, Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

[Let Nobody Turn US Around: An African American Anthology, Manning Marble and Leith Mullings](#)

[An African American and Latinx History of the United States, Paul Ortiz](#)

[White Like Me, Tim Wise](#)

[Dear White America, Tim Wise](#)

[Under the Influence: Shaming the Poor, Praising the Rich and Sacrificing the Future of America, Tim Wise](#)

[The Politics of Immigration: Questions and Answers, Jane Guskin and David Wilson](#)

[Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America, Daniel Tichenor](#)

[Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal, Aviva Chomsky](#)

[The Trouble with Diversity, Walter Benn Michaels](#)

[In Pursuit of Equity: Women, Men and the Quest for Economic Citizenship in 20th Century US, Alice Kessler-Harris](#)

[The Other Women's Movement, Dorothy Sue Cobble](#)

## **Activism/Social Movements/Labor**

[Poor People's Movements: Why They Succeed and How They Fail, Frances Fox-Piven](#)

[Rules for Radicals, Saul Alinsky](#)

[Subterranean Fire: A History of Working-Class Radicalism in the US, Sharon Smith](#)

[Save our Unions, Steve Early](#)

[The Death and Life of American Labor, Stanley Aronowitz](#)

[A Short History of the US Working Class, Paul Le Blanc](#)

[Can the Working Class Change the World?, Michael Yates](#)

[History of Hope: When Americans Have Dared to Dream of a Better Future, James Fraser](#)

[Freedom is a Constant Struggle: Ferguson, Palestine, and the Foundations of a Movement, Angela Davis](#)

[Alternatives to Economic Globalization: A Better World is Possible, John Cavanagh and Jerry Mander](#)

[Beyond Capitalism: Building Democratic Alternatives for Today and the Future, Jeff Shantz and Jose B. Macdonald](#)

[Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970, Doug McAdam](#)

[Freedom is a Constant Struggle, Kenneth Andrews](#)

## **US Politics—Media, Elections, Voting**

[Dark Money, Jane Mayer](#)

[Rich Media, Poor Democracy, Robert W. McChesney](#)

[Make Believe Media, Michael Parenti](#)

[Manufacturing Consent, Noam Chomsky](#)

[The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the US, Alexander Keyssar](#)

## **Political Fiction**

[Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, Mark Twain](#)

[The War Prayer, Mark Twain \(short story\)](#)

[Plays by Bertolt Brecht](#)

[Rebels and Reactionaries, Mitchell Cohen \(lots of good political short stories in this\)](#)

[Invisible Man, Ralph Ellison](#)

[For Whom the Bell Tolls, Earnest Hemingway](#)

[A Farewell to Arms, Earnest Hemingway](#)

[The Sun Also Rises, Earnest Hemingway](#)

[Shooting an Elephant, George Orwell](#)

[1984, George Orwell](#)

[Animal Farm, George Orwell](#)

[Aldous Huxley, Brave New World](#)

[Grapes of Wrath, John Steinback](#)

[In Dubious Battle, John Steinback](#)

[Ecotopia, Ernest Callenbach](#)

## **State Development**

[The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, Barrington Moore](#)

[States and Revolution, Theda Skocpol](#)

[Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism, Perry Anderson](#)

[Lineages of the Absolutist State, Perry Anderson](#)

[Great Transformation, Karly Polanyi](#)

[Capitalist Development and Democracy, Dietrich Rueschemeyer et al.](#)

[The Sovereign State and its Competitors, Hendrik Spruyt](#)

[On the Medieval Origins of the Modern State, Joseph Strayer](#)

[Coercion, Capital, and European States, 900-1992, Charles Tilly](#)

[Bringing the State Back In, Peter Evans et al.](#)

## **Urban Politics**

[City of Quartz; Planet of Slums, Mike Davis](#)

[The Assassination of New York, Robert Fitch](#)

[Working Class New York: Life and Labor Since World War II, Joshua Freeman](#)

[The Monied Metropolis, Sven Beckert](#)

[Fear City: New York's Fiscal Crisis and the Rise of Austerity Politics, Kim Phillips-Fein](#)

[The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy, William Julius Wilson](#)

[American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass, Douglass Massey and Nancy Denton](#)

[Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place, Harvey Moloch](#)

[The Power Broker, Robert Caro](#)

[The Death and Life of Great American Cities, Jane Jacobs](#)

## **Education Policy**

[Class Dismissed: Why We Cannot Teach or Learn our Way Out of Inequality, John Marsh](#)

[Savage Inequalities, Johnathan Kozol](#)

[Shame of the Nation, Johnathan Kozol](#)

[Neoliberalism's War on Higher Education, Henry Giroux](#)

[Reign of Error: The Hoax of the Privatization Movement and the Danger to America's Public Schools, Diane Ravitch](#)

[The Death and Life of the Great American School System, Diane Ravitch](#)

## **Environment/Climate and Food**

[This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate, Naomi Klein](#)

[Ecology Against Capitalism, John Bellamy Foster](#)

[Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence, Christian Parenti](#)

[The Ecological Revolution: Making Peace with the Planet, John Bellamy Foster](#)

[Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food, Paul Greenberg](#)

[Botany of Desire: A Plant's Eye View of the World, Michael Pollan](#)

[Consider the Fork: A History of How We Cook and Eat, Bee Wilson](#)

[A Foodie's Guide to Capitalism: Understanding the Political Economy of What We Eat, Eric Holt-Gimenez](#)

## **Documentaries**

[Wal-Mart the High Cost of Low Price \(capitalism, inequality\)](#)

[Roger and Me, Michael Moore](#)

[Sicko, Michael Moore](#)

[Where to Invade Next, Michael Moore](#)

[When Banana Ruled \(capitalism, imperialism\)](#)

[The Corporation \(capitalism\)](#)

[Inequality for All \(capitalism, inequality\)](#)

[Park Avenue: Money, Power and the American Dream \(inequality\)](#)

[Eyes on the Prize: Civil Rights \(14 episodes\) \(African American civil rights\)](#)

[The True Cost \(capitalism, inequality\)](#)

[Before the Flood \(climate change\)](#)

[Inconvenient Truth \(environment, climate change\)](#)

[Merchants of Doubt \(climate change\)](#)

[Age of Stupid \(climate change\)](#)

[End of the Line \(overfishing oceans\)](#)

[The Divide \(inequality\)](#)

[Climate Refugees \(climate change, migration\)](#)

[Iraq for Sale \(foreign policy\)](#)