

GV150 Week 16 Second Treatise of Government (Part 01) Questions

Lecture:

1. How do Hobbes and Locke differ in their conceptions of the state of nature?
2. How can we relate the competing conceptions of the state of nature to the concepts of positive and negative freedom?
3. If, for Locke, the problem with the state of nature is that some do not follow reason, then how can the unanimous consent needed for the social contract be gained?

Reading:

4. What is the 'law of nature', and why is it important for laws that are made by humans?
5. What is the importance of Locke's assertion that '*absolute monarchs* are but men', and what are its implications?
6. What is the difference between the state of nature and the state of war as Locke sees them?
7. Why do humans join together to leave the state of nature?
8. What is the original justification for property according to Locke, and how has this developed?
9. What do humans have to give up in order to leave the state of nature, and what does this imply?
10. What three things does government provide that are not present in the state of nature?