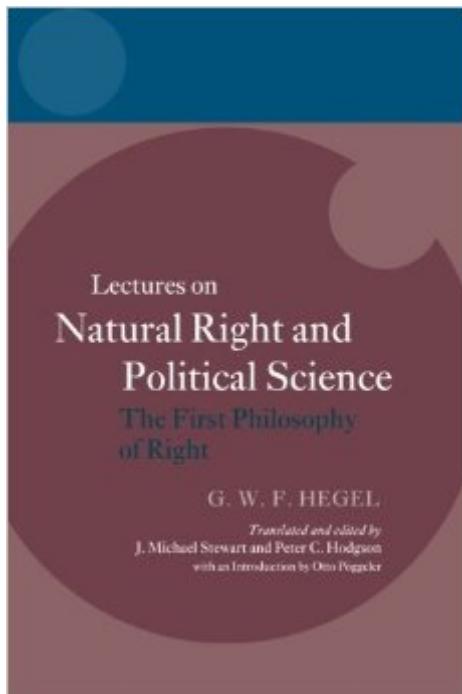


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Hegel: Lectures On Natural Right And Political Science: The First Philosophy Of Right



Synopsis

These lectures constitute the earliest version of Hegel's Philosophy of Right, one of the most influential works in Western political theory. They introduce a notion of civil society that has proven of inestimable importance to diverse philosophical and social agendas. This transcription of the lectures, which remained in obscurity until 1982, presents the philosopher's social thought with clarity and boldness. It differs in some significant respects from Hegel's own published version of 1821. Nowhere does Hegel make plainer the difference between his concept of objective spirit and traditional concepts of natural law or offer a more prominent treatment of the key notion of recognition. His description of poverty is more forceful and his critique of existing social conditions more thorough than in the published edition, which had to satisfy the Prussian censor. The strictly limited powers of the monarch are more clearly delineated in the Heidelberg lectures, and the arguments for a bicameral legislature are more explicit. Hegel formulates in a more dynamic way his understanding of the relationship between rationality and actuality--the rational is not what exists but what is coming into being--and sets forth more simply and clearly the central themes of his political philosophy--freedom, justice, and community. The Heidelberg lectures are an indispensable resource for understanding the edition of 1821 and an invaluable supplement to one of the great classics of political philosophy.

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Customer Reviews

I almost did not buy this book. What a fool I would have been. Again, Hegel's lecture material

shines. gratefully, we have the lectures in English now. He presented this material from 1821 to 1831, during his last 10 years. Again, new material makes its appearance that was not in his books. Here he specifically spells out the birth of the realm of ideation. Then he articulates the methodology of positing as : MARKING, PROCLAMATION, AND CONTRACT. Then he specifies NOTION as three-fold (something he had not done in his writings. Do I need to say it? Buy this lecture series. The lectures are the best Hegel material you will find.

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