Details
4th Feb — 28th March
Weekly, Tuesday evening.
8 weeks

Course description
This course introduces students to important shifts in the ways in which history, society and politics have been thought about from the Renaissance to the twentieth century. The course will cover key figures in the history of political thought and philosophy, including Machiavelli, Rousseau, Wollstonecraft and Marx, and will address influential debates about such issues as the relationship between politics and morality, the justification for violence, the nature and causes of inequality, the rise of capitalism, and the rights of women.

Convenor biography
Katie Ebner-Landy is doing a PhD in History at Queen Mary. She is researching the Renaissance reception of the ‘Characters’: an ancient Greek text which is one of the earliest proposals of how to divide people into types.

Text breakdown
1 — Quentin Skinner, 'The Practice of History and the Cult of the Fact'
4 — Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* (Hackett)
5 — Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (Dedication, Introduction, Chapters 1-5 and 9) (Cambridge University Press)
8 — Karl Marx, *The Manifesto of the Communist Party* (Yale University Press)