

Take-home Test #1

*Page Limit:* 6 double-spaced pages (excluding endnotes).

1. In Chapter VI of *De Cive*, Hobbes argues that “it is one thing to say, *I give you the right to command whatever you wish*, another to say, *I will do whatever you command*” (82). What is the distinction between these two statements? On what basis does Hobbes draw this distinction? What are its most important implications for the account of law and sovereign power Hobbes sets forth in *De Cive*?
2. How exactly — on the basis of what explicit and implicit philosophic principles, what inferential chains, what series of proofs and demonstrations — does Locke’s discussion of property in Chapter V of Book II of his *Two Treatises* enable, inform, and prepare for the concept of law he sets forth in Chapter XI & ff. of the same Book? What are the most important implications of Locke’s account of property for the account of law and sovereign power Locke sets forth in Book II?
3. How, if at all, does the philosophy of law we find in Locke’s *Two Treatises* differ from the one we find in Hobbes’s *De Cive*? Does Locke’s philosophy of law merely *revise* or *rewrite* Hobbes’s? If so, how? Or does it *refute* or *reject* Hobbes’s most basic presuppositions about what law is and ought to be? In short, are the dissimilarities that exist between Hobbes and Locke *true and radical differences*? Or are they *mere distinctions*, which is to say, *semblances* of differences? Why?