DESCRIPTION

This volume offers an accessible and wide-ranging introduction to the history of international political thought.

Taking as its starting-point the various concepts people have used to think about differences between political communities, the book explores changing perceptions of international politics from antiquity to the twentieth century. As well as discussing well-known themes such as relations between independent sovereign states and the tension between raison d'état and a universal code of natural law, it also examines less familiar ideas which have influenced the development of international political thought such as the distinction between civilization, national culture and barbarism, religious attitudes towards infidels, and theories about racial difference and imperialism. Among the key thinkers covered are Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Kant, Marx and Morgenthau, alongside less commonly studied figures such as Herodotus, Pope Innocent IV, Herder, Constant and Zimmern. Each chapter concludes with a guide to further reading which will help students to develop a more detailed understanding of the subject.

Written with the beginner student in mind, this lively textbook is an ideal introduction for anyone studying international political thought.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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FEATURES

• An accessible and wide-ranging introduction to the history of international political thought.

• Focusing on the broad themes of nature, culture and civilization, the book explores changing perceptions of international politics from antiquity to the 20th Century.

• Covers all the classic thinkers like Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Kant, Marx and Morgenthau, as well as less commonly studied thinkers such as Herodotus, Pope Innocent IV, Herder, Constant and Zimmern.

• Includes guides to further reading which will allow students to develop a more detailed understanding of the subject.

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