

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR CC.111

Week IV: HOBBS on Commonwealth

Why are those moved by fear of violent death more rational than those moved by glory?

Why should men keep contracts?

What is the difference between sovereignty by acquisition and sovereignty by institution?

Why should a sovereign have absolute power?

What is the difference between a just law and a good law?

What right is inalienable? Why?

What is Hobbes's teaching on tyranny?

Is there any basis in Hobbes for distinguishing between a good government and a legitimate one?

How does Hobbes's government redress the problem of human pride?

What is Hobbes's conception of freedom? How and to what extent do men enter into the commonwealth freely?

Can government lose its legitimacy? If so, how?

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

CC.111 Modern Conceptions of Freedom
Spring 2013

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.