



# Machiavelli: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

*Quentin Skinner*

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Niccolo Machiavelli taught that political leaders must be prepared to do evil that good may come of it, and his name has been a byword ever since for duplicity and immorality. Is his sinister reputation deserved? In answering this question Quentin Skinner focuses on three major works, *The Prince*, *the Discourses*, and *The History of Florence*, and distils from them an introduction to Machiavelli's doctrines of exemplary clarity.

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