

States of Nature

HNRS 2030 / Fall 2016 / MW 4:30 – 5:50



We will look at some classics in – or critical of – the social contract tradition in political thought: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, Engels, Nietzsche, Rawls, Nozick, Pateman, and Mills. As the social contract claims that life in states is superior to life in non-state societies (that is, in the “state of nature”) we’ll also look at some anthropology of non-state life: Sahlins, Graeber, and Scott.

John Protevi / protevi@lsu.edu

www.protevi.com/john/