Notes

9.2

Machiavelli and *The Prince*

Niccolò Machiavelli

* Italian Renaissance political philosopher and writer
* Founder of modern political science
* Active in the Republic of Florence (in Italy), but was exiled by the Medici family once the Republic was overthrown
* Wrote *The Prince* in his exile

Machiavelli’s *The Prince*

* An early modern treatise on government
* Supported absolute power of the ruler
* Maintains that “the end justifies the means”
* Advises that one should do good if possible, but do evil when necessary