

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456971603321
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Titolo	Hobbes and the law of nature [[electronic resource] /] / Perez Zagorin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, : Princeton University Press, 2009
ISBN	1-282-45863-9 9786612458637 1-4008-3202-0
Edizione	[Course Book]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (191 p.)
Disciplina	171/.2
Soggetti	Natural law Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Chapter 1. Some Basic Hobbesian Concepts -- Chapter 2. Enter the Law of Nature -- Chapter 3. The Sovereign and the Law of Nature -- Chapter 4. Hobbes, the Moral Philosopher -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This is the first major work in English to explore at length the meaning, context, aims, and vital importance of Thomas Hobbes's concepts of the law of nature and the right of nature. Hobbes remains one of the most challenging and controversial of early modern philosophers, and debates persist about the interpretation of many of his ideas, particularly his views about natural law and natural right. In this book, Perez Zagorin argues that these two concepts are the twin foundations of the entire structure of Hobbes's moral and political thought. Zagorin clears up numerous misconceptions about Hobbes and his relation to earlier natural law thinkers, in particular Hugo Grotius, and he reasserts the often overlooked role of the Hobbesian law of nature as a moral standard from which even sovereign power is not immune. Because Hobbes is commonly thought to be primarily a theorist of sovereignty, political absolutism, and unitary state power, the significance of his moral philosophy is often underestimated and widely assumed to depend entirely on individual self-interest. Zagorin reveals Hobbes's originality as a moral philosopher and his importance as a thinker who

subverted and transformed the idea of natural law. Hobbes and the Law of Nature is a major contribution to our understanding of Hobbes's moral, legal, and political philosophy, and a book rich in interpretive and critical insights into Hobbes's writing and thought.
