People Mentioned in the Interviews with Former Students

George Anastaplo (d. 2014) studied with Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1964. Also trained in the law, Anastaplo was denied admission to the Illinois Bar in 1950 when he refused to answer the question whether he was a member of the Communist Party. Anastaplo sued the Illinois Bar and the case reached the U. S. Supreme Court, which upheld the Illinois Bar in a 5-4 decision. Anastaplo taught in the University of Chicago’s Basic Program and at the Loyola University School of Law.

Edward C. Banfield (d. 1999) taught at the University of Chicago until 1959, when he took a position in the government department at Harvard. The books he authored include The Moral Basis of a Backward Society (1958) and The Unheavenly City (1970).

Seth Benardete (d. 2001), studied with Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago, and received his Ph.D. in the Committee on Social Thought in 1955. Regarded as one of Strauss’s most gifted students, Benardete taught at New York University and at the New School. A classicist, he published widely on Greek philosophy and literature, including several works on Platonic dialogues, Herodotus, and Homer. Benardete and Leo Strauss had an extensive correspondence with one another.

Laurence Berns (d. 2011), studied with Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago, from which he received a Ph.D. in International Relations. Berns taught at St. John’s College, Annapolis from 1960 until his retirement in 1999.

Walter Berns (d. 2015) was a student of Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago. He taught at Louisiana State University, Yale, Cornell, and the University of Toronto before moving to Washington, D.C. in 1979, to teach at Georgetown and conduct research at the American Enterprise Institute. His publications include Freedom, Virtue, and the First Amendment (Greenwood Publishing Group, 1970). Berns was a recipient of the National Humanities Medal.

Peter von Blanckenhagen (d. 1990), historian of Roman and Greek art, emigrated to the United States from Germany in 1947 and was at the University of Chicago as visiting lecturer and as professor in the Committee on Social Thought from 1947-57. He also taught at Harvard and at the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University.

Allan Bloom (d. 1992) studied with Strauss as a student in the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1955. Bloom is well known to generations of students who have read his translations of Plato’s Republic and of Rousseau’s Emile. Bloom gained a larger fame with his best-selling book The Closing of the American Mind (Simon and Schuster, 1987).
Christopher Bruell is professor emeritus of political science at Boston College, having taught there for 40 years until his retirement in 2010. He received his doctorate from the University of Chicago, where he studied with Strauss. Bruell is author of *On the Socratic Education: An Introduction to the Shorter Platonic Dialogues* (Roman & Littlefield, 1999) and studies on Thucydides, Xenophon, and Plato.

Charles Butterworth (b. 1938), emeritus professor of government at the University of Maryland, College Park, studied with Strauss at the University of Chicago, from which he received his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science. A specialist in medieval Arabic and Islamic political philosophy, Butterworth’s publications include critical editions and translations of works by Averroes, Alfarabi, Alrazi, Maimonides, and Rousseau.

Joseph Cropsey (d. 2012), professor of political science at the University of Chicago, met Strauss in New York when Strauss was at the New School. Cropsey taught at City College before joining the Chicago faculty in 1958. He and Strauss co-edited the *History of Political Philosophy*, first published in 1962 and reissued in 1972 and 1987.

Werner Dannhauser (d. 2014) came to the University of Chicago in 1956 as a student in the Committee on Social Thought in order to study with Strauss, whom he had heard lecture at the New School. Dannhauser taught at Cornell University until his retirement in 1992; and in his retirement, he taught at Michigan State University. Dannhauser is author of *Nietzsche’s View of Socrates* (Cornell University Press, 1974).

Martin Diamond (d. 1977) received his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1956, and spent most of his academic career at Claremont University and Claremont Graduate Institute. He was an expert on the American Founders and on American federalism. His essays are collected in *As Far as Republican Principles Will Admit: Collected Essays of Martin Diamond*, ed. William A. Schambra (AEI Press, 1992).

Robert Faulkner studied with Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago. He is professor of political science at Boston College, and author of works on early modern political philosophy and American political thought.

Ernest L. Fortin (d. 2002), an Assumptionist priest, received his doctorate from the Sorbonne and did post-doctoral work at the École pratique des hautes études in Paris. It was in Paris that Fortin met Allan Bloom, who later introduced him to Strauss, with whom Fortin studied in Chicago. Fortin was professor of theology at Boston College from 1971-97. His essays have been published in four volumes by Rowman & Littlefield.

Carl J. Friedrich (d. 1984), professor of government at Harvard University. Author of *An Introduction to Political Theory* (1967).
Hilail Gildin (d. 2015) studied with Strauss at the University of Chicago. He was a professor of philosophy at Queens College, New York, and the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the journal Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy and editor of An Introduction to Political Philosophy: Ten Essays of Leo Strauss (Wayne State University Press, 1989).

Robert Goldwin (d. 2010) studied with Strauss at the University of Chicago, receiving his Ph.D. in 1963. He taught at the University of Chicago, Kenyon College, and was dean of St. John’s College in Annapolis. Goldwin served as special consultant to the President and in the Pentagon as advisory to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in the Ford administration. After his government service, Goldwin was a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, where he edited more than twenty books on American politics.

David Grene (d. 2002), a classicist, was one of the founding members of the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. He is perhaps best known for his translations of Greek tragedies and of Herodotus’ The History (University of Chicago Press, 1987).

Robert A. Horn (d. 2002) taught at the University of Chicago until 1953, when he left to join the political science department at Stanford University, where he would teach constitutional law for 26 years and from which he received the Lloyd W. Dinkelspiel Award for outstanding service to undergraduate education. He is the author of Groups and the Constitution (Stanford University Press, 1956).

Robert Horwitz (d. 1987) studied with Strauss at the University of Chicago. He taught at Michigan State University and Kenyon College. Horwitz authored the study of Harold Lasswell that appears in Essays on the Scientific Study of Politics, edited by Herbert J. Storing, and was the editor of and a contributor to The Moral Foundations of the American Republic (University Press of Virginia, 1977). He was instrumental in creating the Leo Strauss Dissertation Award in 1974 and in establishing, with Hilail Gildin, the journal Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy.

Robert Maynard Hutchins (d. 1977), American educational philosopher and President of the University of Chicago from 1929 to 1951.

Harry V. Jaffa (d. 2015), professor at Claremont McKenna College and Claremont Graduate University, was one of Strauss’s Ph.D. students at the New School of Social Research. Jaffa’s most well-known book is Crisis of the House Divided: An Interpretation of the Issues in the Lincoln-Douglas Debates (University of Chicago Press, 1959).
Leon Kass, M.D. (b. 1939), Addie Clark Harding Professor Emeritus in the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago and Hertog Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Kass was a tutor at St. John’s College Annapolis from 1972-76 (Strauss taught at St. John’s from 1969-73) and professor at the University of Chicago from 1976-2001. He was chairman of the President’s Council on Bioethics from 2001-2005.

Wilmoore Kendall (d. 1967) was professor of political philosophy at Yale University from 1947-61. With his former student, William F. Buckley, Jr., he founded the National Review.

Jacob Klein (d. 1978), a contemporary and longtime friend of Strauss’s from their student years in Germany. Klein, who studied with Heidegger and Husserl, received his Ph.D. from The University of Marburg in 1922. Klein taught at St. John’s College, Annapolis from 1937-78. He is the author of Greek Mathematical Thought and the Origin of Algebra (MIT Press, 1968) and A Commentary on Plato’s Meno (University of North Carolina Press, 1965), which Strauss taught in a course on the Meno in 1967.

Alexandre Kojève (d. 1968), philosopher; he taught at L’École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris. His correspondence critiquing Strauss’s interpretation of Xenophon’s Hiero is published in the revised and expanded edition of On Tyranny, ed. Victor Gourevitch and Michael S. Roth (University of Chicago Press: 2000). An influential interpreter of Hegel, Kojève’s Introduction to the Reading of Hegel: Lectures on Phenomenology of Spirit is considered a classic. Kojève and Strauss were friends from their student days. Their debate about philosophy and politics led to Kojève’s response to Strauss’s On Tyranny.

Ralph Lerner first encountered Strauss in 1949, when Lerner was in the M.A. program in the political science department at the University of Chicago. As a Ph.D. student he studied with Strauss, who served as his dissertation advisor. Lerner is the Benjamin Franklin Professor Emeritus in the College and of Social Thought at the University of Chicago and the author of numerous books, including Maimonides’ Empire of Light: Popular Enlightenment in an Age of Belief (University of Chicago Press, 2000).

Muhsin Mahdi (d. 2007), Iraqi-born scholar, came to the University of Chicago to study economics but the influence of his teachers Nabia Abbott (a scholar of Arabic texts at the Oriental Institute) and Leo Strauss led him to the study of philosophy. Mahdi was a scholar of medieval Arabic and Islamic philosophy at the University of Chicago (in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization) and at Harvard, where he was James Richard Jewett Professor of Arabic from 1969-1996. His last book, Alfarabi and the Foundation of Islamic Political Philosophy (University of Chicago Press, 2001) is dedicated to Leo Strauss.1


Heinrich Meier (b. 1953) is the director of the Carl Friedrich von Siemens Stiftung, a professor of philosophy at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany, and a distinguished visiting professor at the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. He is the editor of Leo Strauss, *Gesammelte Schriften* (Stuttgart: J.B. Metzler). He is author of *Das theologisch-politische Problem: Zum Thema von Leo Strauss.* (J.B. Metzler, 2003,), translated into English with additional material by Marcus Brainard as *Leo Strauss and the Theological-Political Problem* (Cambridge University Press, 2006).

Arthur Melzer is a professor of political science at Michigan State University and the author of works on Rousseau and modern political philosophy and, most recently, of *Philosophy between the Lines: The Lost History of Esoteric Writing* (University of Chicago Press, 2014).

Hans Morgenthau (d.1980), a leading figure in the study of international relations, emigrated to the United States from Germany in 1937 and began teaching at the University of Chicago in 1943, where he was Director of the Center for the Study of American Foreign and Military Policy for seventeen years. He is the author of *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace* (McGraw Hill, 1948) and other works on international relations and American foreign policy.

Shlomo Pines (d. 1990), scholar of Jewish and Islamic philosophy best known for his translation of Maimonides’ *Guide of the Perplexed* (University of Chicago Press, 1963), for which Leo Strauss provided an introduction.

C. Herman Pritchett (d. 1995) was a professor in the political science department at the University of Chicago, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1937. He specialized in constitutional law. Pritchett was chair of his department from 1948-1955 and 1958-64 and served as president of the American Political Science Association from 1963-1964.

David Riesman (d. 2002) was on the faculty of the University of Chicago from 1946-58. He is the author (with Nathan Glazer and Reuel Denney) of *The Lonely Crowd* (1950).
Kurt Riezler (d. 1955), professor of philosophy in the Graduate Faculty of the New School of Social Research from 1939-1952. Reizler, who had served as advisor to the German Chancellor in WWI, emigrated to the United States in the 1930s. See Leo Strauss, “Kurt Reizler, 1882-1955,” Social Research 23 (1956), 3-34 (reprinted in What is Political Philosophy? and Other Studies [University of Chicago Press, 1959], 233-60).

Stanley H. Rosen (d. 2014), who studied with Strauss at the University of Chicago (he received his Ph.D. from the Committee on Social Thought in 1955), was the Borden Parker Bowne Professor of Philosophy and Professor Emeritus at Boston University. Rosen was the author of The Elusiveness of the Ordinary (Yale University Press, 2002) and published works on Plato, Hegel, Nietzsche, Heidegger, nihilism, and hermeneutics.

Gershom Scholem (d. 1982), German-born Israeli philosopher, the first professor of Jewish Mysticism at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Scholem met Strauss in Berlin in the early years of the twentieth century, and the two maintained regular correspondence until the end of Strauss’s life.

Herbert J. Storing (d. 1977) was a student of Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago and then joined the faculty of the Department of Political Science, where he remained until shortly before his death. He is the editor of The Complete Anti-Federalist, 7 vols. (University of Chicago Press, 1981).

Jenny Strauss, adopted daughter of Leo Strauss, is William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Classics at the University of Virginia.

Thomas Strauss, son of Strauss’s wife Mirjam, whom Strauss adopted and raised. Thomas was an undergraduate at the Universit of Chicago.

Nathan Tarcov is Professor of Social Thought and Political Science and in the College at the University of Chicago and Director of the Leo Strauss Center. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard (where he studied with Harvey Mansfield), and studied with Strauss at Claremont in the summer of 1968. Tarcov is author of writings on Locke, Machiavelli, and the American Founders.

Eric Voegelin (d. 1985) fled Germany in 1938, and he became a professor at Louisiana State University in 1942. In 1958 he returned to Germany to fill Max Weber’s former chair (which had been vacant since Weber’s death) at Munich's Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität. He was at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University from 1969-1985. His major works include The New Science of Politics (1951) and Order and History (Louisiana University Press, 1956).
Leo Weinstein (d. 1999) received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where he studied with Leo Strauss. He taught at Smith College from 1952 until 1991, where he was a professor of Government.

Howard B. White (d. 1974) was Leo Strauss’s first graduate student at the New School for Social Research. White joined the Graduate Faculty at the New School in 1951, where he taught until 1974. He is the author of works on Francis Bacon and Shakespeare.

Paul Wolfowitz studied political science at the University of Chicago, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1972. A former deputy secretary of defense, he has been credited with playing a large role in President George W. Bush’s decision to invade Iraq. Wolfowitz was a student in three of Leo Strauss’s courses during his graduate studies at the University of Chicago.

Michael Zuckert (b. 1942), the Nancy R. Dreux Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame and author, with Catherine Zuckert, of *The Truth About Leo Strauss: Political Philosophy and American Democracy* (University of Chicago Press, 2006) and other works on political philosophy. Zuckert received his Ph.D. in 1973 from the University of Chicago, where he studied with Strauss.

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1 The dedication reads: “For L. S.—If we had to repay the debt of gratitude incurred by his kindness to us, not even the whole of time would suffice.”