

PHIL 2201 Introduction to Marxist Philosophy
Fall 2015

Class times: Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:00 to 2:30

Professor: Robert Ware

Office: TBA

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 2:30 to 3:30; Fridays, 12 to 1; or by appointment

In this course we will engage in a philosophical study of many of the most important concepts and theories of Karl Marx (with attention to Frederick Engels, his co-worker). This will require special attention to Marx's (and sometimes Engels') texts, with investigation of some of the best philosophical analyses of his ideas. We will consider their coherence and plausibility in the 19th century and consider their applicability to the 21st century. Work will be assessed on the basis of philosophical skills with respect to Marxist ideas.

Our main text is: Robert C. Tucker, ed., *The Marx-Engels Reader*, Second Edition (New York & London: Norton, 1978) (Available at Octopus Books, 116 Third Ave.) This is cited below as "ME Reader". All other reading materials are available on ARES or on Reserve.

- Week 1 2 Sept **Marx and Philosophy**
 Albert Einstein, "Why Socialism"
 Cohen, "How to Do Political Philosophy"
 View: Howard Zinn's "Marx in Soho", <http://www.lannan.org/events/brian-jones-in-howard-zinns-play-marx-in-soho>
- (4 Sept: no class)
 Rec: G. A. Cohen, "Why Not Socialism?"
- Week 2 9 Sept **Manifesto(s)**
 Marx and Engels, Communist Manifesto, ME Reader, 469-500
- 11 Sept
 Rec: Engels, Socialism: Scientific and Utopian, ME Reader, 683-717
- Week 3 16 Sept **Alienation, Religion, Ideology**
 Marx, ME Reader, 70-81, 93-105, 146-163, 278-293
- 18 Sept
 Rec: Musto, "Revisiting Marx's Concept of Alienation"
 Marx, ME Reader, 53-65
- Week 4 23 Sept **Dialectical Materialism**
 Marx, ME Reader, 163-186, 192-200
 Marx, ME Reader, 143-145, 299-302
 Cohen, *Karl Marx's Theory of History*, Expanded Edition, xvii-xxviii
 Marx, Preface, ME Reader, 3-6
- 25 Sept
 Rec: Ware, Intro to *Analyzing Marxism*, 1-16
 Lebowitz, "Is 'Analytical Marxism' Marxism?" in Michael Lebowitz, *Following Marx*

- Week 5 30 Sept **Historical Materialism**
Engels, Letters, ME Reader, 760-768
Cohen, "Forces and Relations of Production", 3-29 in G. A. Cohen, *History, Labor, and Freedom*
Ware, "Freeing the Forces of Production" (msc., for Chinese version, 2010)
- 2 Oct
Rec: Cohen, "Historical Materialism", 30-106 in G. A. Cohen, *History, Labor, and Freedom*
- Week 6 7 Oct **Classes: Old and New**
Marx, ME Reader, 218-220, 441-442, 586-617
- 9 Oct
Rec: Wood, "Classes", Part 1, Chap. 6
Ware, "Proletariat and Precariat"
- Week 7 14 Oct **Capital and Markets**
Marx, Capital, ME Reader, 302-361
- 16 Oct
Rec: Harvey, "Reflections and Prognoses"
Dymski & Elliott, "Roemer versus Marx: Perspectives on Exploitation"
- Week 8 21 Oct **Capitalism Extended and Globalization**
Marx, Capital, ME Reader, 376-388, 417-441, 443-465
- 23 Oct
Rec: Harvey, "The Geography of It All"
- (28 and 30 Oct; no class)
- Week 9 4 Nov **Revolution or Reform**
Marx, ME Reader, 618-642, 512-524, 549-555
Engels, ME Reader, 556-573
- 6 Nov
Rec: Debates at the International in Musto, 183-199, 283-295
- Week 10 11 Nov **Failed States and Futures**
Marx, ME Reader, 525-548
Ware, "Marx on Some Phases of Communism"
- 13 Nov
Rec: Samir Amin, *The Implosion of Capitalism*

- Week 11 18 Nov **New Societies**
Marx, ME Reader, 549-555
Engels, ME Reader, 700-724, 728-733
- 20 Nov
Rec: Lebowitz, Selection from *The Socialist Imperative*
- Week 12 25 Nov **Morals or Not**
Wood, "Marxism and Morality", Part 3, Chaps. 9 & 10
Engels, ME Reader, 725-727, 744-759
- 27 Nov
Rec: Cohen, "Freedom, Justice, and Capitalism"
- Week 13 2 Dec **Marxism Then and Now**
Marx and Engels, Communist Manifesto, ME Reader, 473-491
- 4 Dec
Rec: Samir Amin, *The World We Wish to See*

Supplemental reserve items:

- Ware, "Marx, the Division of Labor, and Human Nature", *Social Theory and Practice* VIII, No.1 (Spring 1982)
- Ware, "Marx, the Theory of Class Consciousness, and Revolutionary Organization", *Praxis International* 3, No.3 (October 1983),

Books on reserve:

- G. A. Cohen, *Karl Marx's Theory of History*, Expanded Edition
- G. A. Cohen, *History, Labor, and Freedom*
- Kai Nielsen and Robert Ware, eds. *Exploitation*
- Marcello Musto, ed., *Workers Unite: The International 150 Years Later*
- Michael Lebowitz, *The Socialist Imperative*
- Samir Amin, *The Implosion of Capitalism*
- Samir Amin, *The World We Wish to See*

Other Resources:

- Marx Engels Archive: <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/index.htm>
- Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, *Collected Works*, 50 volumes in MacOdrum Library

Work Schedule:

10%	Note	1000 words	16 September
	Critically assess one section (paragraph or less) of the Communist Manifesto		
20%	Paper	1800 words	7 October
	Critically assess one issue about alienation or historical materialism		
10%	Sketch for major paper	750-1000 words	21 October
	Give a brief sketch of your plan for your major paper		
50%	Major paper	4000-5000 words	25 November
	Elaborate and develop in detail one issue from Marx's work		
10%	Note	1000 words	4 December
	Critically assess a small issue for a Marxist transition or future Marxist society		

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2015-16)**Assignments:**

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/>)

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure

accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 2	Classes start.
Sept. 4	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
Sept. 7	Labour Day - University closed.
Sept. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Day – University closed.
Oct. 26-30	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 7	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 7	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 8	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 9-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 21	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 6	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 15-19	Winter Break, no classes.
Mar. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Mar. 25	Good Friday – University closed.
Apr. 8	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses.
Apr. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 9-10	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 11-23	Final Examinations. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 23	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library http://www1.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/ 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735