

PHIL 2201 Introduction to Marxist Philosophy Carleton University

Course Outline

Term: Summer 2021

Time: Tue. & Thurs. 11:35-2:25

Location: Online

Instructor: Philippe-Antoine Hoyeck

Teaching Assistant: Andrew Gemmell

Office: N/A

Office hours: By appointment only

Phone: N/A

Email: philippeantoin.hoyeck@carleton.ca

Email: andrewgemmell@cmail.carleton.ca

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the philosophical dimensions of Karl Marx's thought in the context of 18th and 19th century philosophy, politics, and social developments. Topics include the concept of alienation, the materialist conception of history, the theory of exploitation, and the meaning of socialism.

Learning Outcomes

This course is structured according to two objectives. The first is to familiarize students with the central tenets of Marx's philosophical thought. The second is to encourage them to think critically about the plausibility and contemporary relevance of Marx's thought, especially using the tools developed by the tradition of Analytical Marxism.

Course Materials

Readings will consist mainly of excerpts from the works of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, which can be consulted online for free at the [Marxists Internet Archive](#). Other readings will be taken from the secondary sources listed below, all of which are available online on Ares.

Cohen, G.A. *History, Labour, and Freedom: Themes from Marx*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1988.

Cohen, G.A. *Karl Marx's Theory of History: A Defence*, Expanded Edition. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press, 2001.

Wood, Allen W. *Karl Marx*, 2nd Edition. New York: Routledge, 2004.

Course Requirements

This is a blended online course. Each week will contain four hours of synchronous lectures on Zoom and two hours of either asynchronous work or synchronous group work. Students are expected to attend synchronous lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays and to keep up with all asynchronous work, including readings, videos, and written responses. Nonetheless, lectures will be recorded for those who cannot attend.

Evaluations:

- Participation 10%
- Short assignment 1 (due July 12th) 10%
- Short assignment 2 (due August 3rd) 10%
- Mid-term Examination (July 22nd-25th) 15%
- Essay (due August 15th) 25%
- Summative final exam (TBA) 30%

Course Policies

- The instructor will not hold regular office hours. Office hours will be held by appointment on Zoom.
- The instructor reserves the right to modify the order and content of lectures. Students will always be notified ahead of time in the event of a change.
- The instructor will try to respond to emails promptly. However, students should allow up to two business days for answers.
- No extra work will be assigned to students for additional grades under any circumstances.
- Evaluations will not be weighed differently to improve students' grades under any circumstances.

Tentative Course Calendar — Summer 2021

Week 1	Marxism and Modernity
July 6 & 8	Readings: Cohen, G.A. <i>Karl Marx's Theory of History</i> , p. xvii-xxviii, 415-423 Marx, K. and Engels, F. <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i> <i>Short assignment 1 assigned July 8th (due July 12th)</i>
Week 2	The Concept of Alienation
July 13 & 15	Readings: Feuerbach, L. <i>The Essence of Christianity</i> (excerpts) Marx, K. <i>Theses on Feuerbach</i> Marx, K. <i>Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844</i> (excerpts) Marx, K. and Engels, F. <i>The German Ideology</i> (excerpts)
Week 3	The Materialist Conception of History
July 20 & 22	Readings: Cohen, G.A. <i>Karl Marx's Theory of History</i> (excerpts) Engels, F. "Speech at the Graveside of Karl Marx" Marx, K. <i>Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy</i> (excerpts) Marx, K. and Engels, F. <i>The German Ideology</i> (excerpts) Marx, K. and Engels, F. Selected Correspondence. Wood, A. <i>Karl Marx</i> , p. 215-226. <i>Mid-term examination opens July 22nd (closes July 25th)</i>

Week 4	Materialism and Morality
July 27 & 29	<p>Readings: Marx, K. <i>Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right</i> (excerpts) Marx, K. and Engels, F. <i>The German Ideology</i> (excerpts) Wood, A. <i>Karl Marx</i>, p. 127-161.</p> <p><i>Short assignment 2 assigned July 29th (due Aug 2nd)</i></p>
Week 5	The Theory of Exploitation
Aug 3 & 5	<p>Readings: Cohen, G.A. <i>History, Labour, and Freedom</i>, p. 209-238. Marx, K. <i>Capital</i>, vol. 1 (excerpts) Marx, K. <i>Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts</i> (excerpts)</p> <p><i>Essay assigned July 5th (due Aug 15th)</i></p>
Week 6	Revolution and the Advent of Socialism
Aug 10 & 12	<p>Readings: Cohen, G.A. <i>History, Labour, and Freedom</i>, p. 286-304. Marx, K. <i>Critique of the Gotha Program</i> Marx, K. <i>Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts</i> (excerpts) Marx, K and Engels, F. <i>The Holy Family</i> (excerpts) Wood, A. <i>Karl Marx</i> (excerpts)</p> <p><i>Final exam date TBD</i></p>

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Summer 2021)

Assignments:

Please follow your professor's instructions on how assignments will be handled electronically.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, they should contact their course instructor no later than *three working days* of the due date. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of the term. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

Students are expected to be available for the duration of a course including the examination period. Occasionally, students encounter circumstances beyond their control where they may not be able to write a final examination or submit a take-home examination. Examples of this would be a serious illness or the death of a family member. If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a take-home examination by the due date, you may apply for a deferral no later than *three working days* after the original due date (as per the University Regulations in [Section 4.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar](#)). Visit the [Registrar's Office](#) for further 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. ([Section 10.1 of the Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations](#))

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term:

- *Pregnancy or religious obligation:* Please contact your instructor 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](#).
- *Academic accommodations for students with disabilities:* If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).
- *Survivors of Sexual Violence:* As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support
- *Accommodation for Student Activities:* Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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.

Important Dates:

May 6	Classes start.	July 1	Statutory holiday, University closed.
May 13	Last day for registration and course changes for <u>early</u> summer courses.	July 2	Late summer courses begin and full summer courses resume.
May 20	Last day for registration and course changes for <u>full</u> summer courses.	July 9	Last day for registration and course changes for <u>late</u> summer courses.
May 21	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from <u>early</u> and <u>full</u> summer courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.	July 23	Last day to withdraw from <u>late</u> summer courses with a full fee adjustment. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
May 24	Statutory holiday, University closed.	Aug. 2	Civic holiday, University closed.
June 11	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade for <u>early</u> summer courses before the official examination period.	Aug. 9	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade for <u>late</u> summer and <u>full</u> summer courses before the official examination period.
June 18	Last day for <u>early</u> summer classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for handing in term work, subject to any earlier course deadline.	Aug. 16	Last day of <u>late</u> and <u>full</u> summer term classes. Last day for handing in term work, subject to any earlier course deadline. Last day for academic withdrawal from <u>late</u> summer and <u>full</u> summer courses.
June 19-20	No classes or examinations take place.	Aug. 17-18	No classes or examinations take place.
June 21-27	Final examinations.	Aug. 19-25	Final examinations.
June 27	Take-home examinations for <u>early</u> summer courses are due.	Aug. 25	Take-home examinations for <u>late</u> or <u>full</u> summer courses are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:
www.carleton.ca/philosophy
520-2110

Registrar's Office:
www.carleton.ca/registrar
520-3500

Academic Advising Centre:
www.carleton.ca/academicadvising
520-7850

Writing Services:
<http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>
520-3822

MacOdrum Library
<http://www.library.carleton.ca/>
520-2735