



PSCI 5915 W

Special Topics in Political Science

“Political Economic Thought on Work, Wealth, and Well-Being ”

In this seminar, we will begin with readings from Smith, Marx, Jevons, Marshall, Veblen and Keynes to set the stage. Together, they give us a sense of classical political economic, Marxist, Keynesian, institutionalist, and neoclassical economic thinking on work, wealth and well-being. Next, we will read several books that give us a sense of the character of work and the labor process across the 20th and into the 21st century, including work that questions the productionist emphasis or work ethic at the heart of most political economic thought. Then, we will explore the construction of self or subjectivity necessary to modern consumption and work and end with texts on and from the happiness industry, one an exemplar of happiness research and another dedicated to a critique of the happiness industry itself.

Instructor: David Blaney
Schedule: January to April 2017
Time: Thursdays 11:35-14:25