Political Economy Doctoral Seminar (Winter 2014)
PECO 6000
2:35 - 5:30 Mondays
Room T.B.A.

Instructors:
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Introduction:
This seminar, the core course for the Collaborative PhD Program with a Specialization in Political Economy, is designed to promote advanced and critical thinking on the political economy tradition and its future. A primary goal is to encourage collaborative and interdisciplinary reading, thinking and discussion regarding political economy approaches and core concepts. The course is also designed to help guide students regarding the range of theoretical alternatives that may be of use in developing their own doctoral research.

Course Readings:
Students are expected to read their email regularly and check CuLearn, as change and additions in the readings and the schedule will be announced weekly.

Evaluation:

1. **Class participation** will also represent a major element of evaluation. This is an advanced seminar class in which regular, active and critical participation is expected from every member of the class. All students should show that they have done the readings and have reflected upon them. Students are expected to be respectful of other seminar participants.

2. Presentation of a selection from the readings, to be negotiated with the class. These presentations are limited to 10 minutes. Each presentation should address the main argument, points of insight and contentious issues in the assigned reading. A brief paper addressing these points, no longer than 3 pages, must be submitted to both faculty instructors one week in advance.

3. Oral presentation of the work of one of your colleagues, including constructive and supportive commentary that focuses on points for discussion. Your colleague will provide you with their work in writing no later than one week prior to the presentation.
4. Oral response to the presentation of your work by a colleague. This is your opportunity to present aspects of your thinking and work that your colleague may have missed, as well as the chance to address the points of discussion.

5. A review paper. Participants may satisfy the written element of the course requirements in a variety of ways:
   a) A review paper based on the impact of Political Economy on their discipline;
   b) A review paper based on the impact of their discipline on Political Economy;
   c) A review paper based on their thesis proposal;
   d) A research paper based on their thesis research;
   e) Another topic negotiated with the course instructors.

Papers will normally be about 7000 words in length (double-spaced, in 12 point) and demonstrate a command of the literature and original thinking in the domain of political economy. A proposal for your paper, which will be no more than 4 pages, double-spaced, is due Feb. 3. This will allow for feedback from the instructors and will be graded as part of the total review paper. Final papers will be due to both instructors by April 7th.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Component</th>
<th>Grade Weight</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of Readings</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>As Assigned</td>
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<td>Paper on Readings</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>As Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of colleague’s work</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>As Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal and Review Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Proposal: Feb. 3</td>
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<td>Final Paper: April 7th</td>
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Course Schedule and Readings:

Week 1 - January 6
Introduction and Intellectual Autobiographies
Students and faculty will come to class each prepared to do a 10 minute presentation of their intellectual autobiography. In this informal presentation, you should discuss what formative experiences led you to come to study what you do, what influences your thinking, why you selected the topic for your planned dissertation, etc. The instructors will also participate! Laura MacDonald, Director of the Institute, will join this session.

Administrative tasks will include a review of this syllabus and shared decision-making regarding assignment dates.

Week 2
January 13 - Classics of Political Economy
Guest Participant: Justin Paulson, Department of Sociology
Required reading:
Heilbroner 55-157 (emphasis on Smith; skim pp. 106-157 for flavour)
Marx, chapters 1, 4, 7, and 10 of *Capital* (excerpts from the Tucker compilation are fine (302-336, 344-376)

**Suggested additional reading:**
Therborn, chapter 2 of *Science, Class, and Society*, “The Economy and the Economics of Capitalism”
Arrighi, chapter 2 of *Adam Smith in Beijing*, "The Historical Sociology of Adam Smith"

**Week 3 January 20**
**International Political Economy and the Economic Crisis**
**Guest Participant Manfred Bienefeld (Professor Emeritus)**


http://www.monthlyreview.org/100401palley.php

The Economist (2008) “Regulators need to counterbalance the cycle, not accentuate it”

Recommended Readings on IPE:


**Required Readings**
**Week 4 January 27**
**Political Economy of the Global South**
**Guest Participant: Laura MacDonald**


Week 5 – Feb. 3 Proposal for final paper is due today.
Political Economy of Social Movements
Guest Participant: Rebecca Schein, Human Rights

Readings TBA

Week 6 – Feb. 10
Environmental/Ecological Political Economy
Guest Participant: Susan Spronk, Université d’Ottawa

Question: Urban Water and Sanitation Services in Uruguay and Bolivia: what might a post-neoliberal water policy look like?


Week 7 – Feb. 24
Social Reproduction

Required Readings


Recommended Readings

Week 8 – March 2
Canadian Political Economy
Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Weeks 9-12 Student Presentations on Each Other’s Work and Responses