Political Economy Doctoral Seminar (Winter 2011)  
PECO 6000  

Thursdays, from 2:30 to 5:30 in Room Loeb A 820

1. Instructors:

Laura Macdonald, Political Science  
Office hours: Thursdays 12:30 – 2:30; Fridays 10:00 – 11:30  
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Dominique Marshall, History  
Office hours: Mondays, 9:15 to 10:00 ; Thursdays, 1:30 to 2:20  
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Guest Instructors: Professors Wallace Clement, Kate Bedford, and Simon Dalby

This seminar is the core course for the Collaborative PhD Program with a Specialization in Political Economy. The seminar 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 main 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 WEB-CT account regularly, as change and additions in the readings and the schedule will be announced weekly.

The readings will be posted on WEB-CT when possible, or placed on Reserve in the Library. Occasionally, copies will also be placed in the Political Economy Students’ Lounge (Room Loeb A 831)

There is one required text:


The book has been ordered at Octopus Books, on 116 Third Avenue (near Bank in the Glebe). FAQs are available at:
Note: Octopus requests that you come equipped with the instructors names as well as the course code.

2. Schedule:

I. Introductions

Week 1. 6 January  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 how you came to study what you do, what influences your thinking, why you selected the topic for your planned dissertation etc. The instructors will also participate!*  
Janet Siltanen, Director of the Institute, will join this session.

II. Theoretical Traditions

Week 2. 13 January  Canadian Political Economy, with Wallace Clement, Sociology


Week 3. 20 January  Sexuality, Gender and International Development, with Kate Bedford, Law, University of Kent, Visiting Professor, Institute of Political Economy, Winter 2011


Week 4. 27 January  International Political Economy, with Laura Macdonald, Political Science


*Discussion on the selection of core concepts*

Week 5. 3 February, Environment with Simon Dalby, Geography

Readings to be announced

* Proposals for papers due

Week 6. 10 February, States, Rights and Citizenship, with Dominique Marshall

Readings to be announced

Week 7. 17 February, Topic and Guest to be announced

Winter Break. 24 February, no class

III. Core and Contested Concepts
*The themes and names of discussion leaders will be determined later by on January 29.

**Week 8. 3 March**

**Week 9. 10 March**

**Week 10. 17 March**

**Week 11. 24 March**

*First drafts of papers are due*

**IV. Presentation of Papers**

*The schedule and names of speakers will be determined later*

**Week 12, 3 April**

**Week 13, 7 April**

*A social event will follow the last class*

*Final versions of papers are due on April 11.*

**3. Assignments:**

*Supplementary instructions for the writing and the presentation of assignments will be regularly posted on WEB-CT and announced in seminars. If you miss one class, a weekly email to all students will help you keep informed of the announcements and activities of that week.*

Participants may satisfy the written element of the course requirements in a variety of ways:

1) A review paper based on the impact of Political Economy on their discipline;
2) A review paper based on the impact of their discipline on Political Economy;
3) A review paper based on their thesis proposal;
4) A research paper based on their thesis research;
5) Another topic negotiated with the course instructors;
Papers will normally be about 7000 words (double-spaced, Times New Roman) in length and demonstrate a command of the literature and original thinking in the domain of political economy.

- **Proposals** for the papers, of two to three pages, will be due on **February 3**. Their mark will count for **10%** of the final mark. They aim at establishing the topic, the general approach and an initial bibliography.

- **Final papers** will be due on **April 11**. The presentation offers an opportunity to students to receive the seminar’s feedback on their draft. The **first drafts** will be due on **March 24**. The mark of the final papers will count for **45%** of the final mark.

**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. The mark for the participation will count for **25%** of the final mark. It will be based on the pertinence and the depth of students’ interventions, the rigour of their understanding, the collegiality of their engagement with their peers’ concerns, the clarity of their expression, the openness of their reflection,

In addition to regular seminar participation, students will make one formal **presentation** in the weeks from March 3th to April 3th. This will take the form of individual précis and commentaries on particular readings based on reading previously determined by the class. The selected articles are meant to be read in advance and will provide the basis for conversation. Consequently, introductions are limited to 10 minutes. Each presentation should address the main argument, points of insight and contentious issues in the assigned reading. The marks for these presentations, and for the ability to help the ensuing discussions, will count for **15%** of the final mark. Students will hand in an outline of their presentation on the day, in order to help the evaluation of this exercise.

In each case, students will receive a written evaluation, explaining the strengths and weaknesses of their contributions.

**Marking Scheme**
- Proposal: 15%
- Final paper: 45%
- Class participation: 25%
- One oral presentation on a core concept, including outlines of the presentations: 15%