

**Political Economy Doctoral Seminar (Winter  
2011) PECO 6000**

Thursdays, from 11:25 to 2:25  
Dunton Tower Room 1524

**Instructor: Laura Macdonald, Political Science**

**Office hours:** Mondays 11 am to 1 pm or by appointment.

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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.

**Background Reading:** If you are nervous about your basic knowledge of economic concepts, you might find these two books interesting/useful.

Jim Stanford, *Economics for Everyone: A Short Guide to the Economics of Capitalism*, Halifax: Fernwood, 2008.

Ha-Joon Chang, *Economics: The Users Guide*, Bloomsbury: New York, 2014.

**Marking Scheme**

- Proposal: 10 % - due **February 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- Final paper: 40 % - First draft due **March 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Final version due **April 12<sup>th</sup>**.
- Class participation: 25%
- Two oral presentations (one from weeks 3 to 6, one from weeks 7 to 10) = 2 x 10%
- Commentary on fellow student's draft paper in last two weeks of class - 5%

**Late Policy:** There will be a deduction of 2% per day for late papers.

**Proposals** for the papers, 3-4 pages in length, will be due on **February 2<sup>nd</sup>**. They aim at establishing the topic, the general approach and an initial bibliography. To be uploaded to Brightspace.

**Final Papers** will normally be about 18-20 pages (double-spaced, Times New Roman) in length. Your paper should explore a key political economy concept that relates to your own research program and demonstrate a command of the literature and original thinking in the domain of political economy. You will

**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 **two formal presentations**. This will take the form of individual précis and commentaries on 2-3 readings from that week. The selected articles are meant to be read in advance and will provide the basis for conversation. Consequently, introductions are limited to 15 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 a short outline of their presentation on the day (around 2 pages, single spaced), in order to help the evaluation of this exercise.

You will also provide a **commentary** on a fellow student's draft paper during the last two weeks of term.

The remainder of your grade (25%) comes from your informed, engaged, collegial **participation** in class discussions of the assigned readings throughout the term.

## Course Schedule

### Week 1. January 11th Introduction and the Liberal Political Economy "Classics"

*Students and faculty will come to class each prepared to do a 12 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 (whether influential thinkers or lived experience), why you selected the topic for your planned dissertation etc. We will also discuss the following texts:*

Adam Smith, selections from *The Wealth of Nations*, in Robert Heilbroner, *Teachings from the Worldly Philosophy*, New York: W.W. Norton, 74-105.

Max Weber, "Protestant Sects and the Spirit of Capitalism." H.H. Gerth and C. Wright Mills, ed. *From Max Weber*, Oxford University Press, 1958.

John Maynard Keynes, selections, in *Teachings from the Worldly Philosophy*, New York: W.W. Norton, 264-296.

Milton Friedman, "The Relation between Economic Freedom and Political Freedom," in Milton Friedman on Freedom : Selections from The Collected Works of Milton Friedman, Hoover Institution Press, 2017, 17-33.

*Further reading:*

Robert Heilbroner, *Teachings from the Worldly Philosophy*, New York: W.W. Norton, 1996.

Robert Heilbroner, *The Worldly Philosophers: The Lives, Times and Ideas of the Great Economic Thinkers*, New York: W.W. Norton, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. 1972.

Friedrich Von Hayek, *The Road to Serfdom*.

## **Week 2 - January 18<sup>th</sup> – Critical Political Economy "Classics"**

Karl Marx, "Manifesto of the Communist Party," "18<sup>th</sup> Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte," "On the Jewish Question," "Theses on Feuerbach" "Grundrisse." Robert C. Tucker, ed. *The Marx-Engels Reader*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Norton, 1978.

Antonio Gramsci, *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. New York: International Publishers, 1971, pp. 5-14, 52-60, 147-57.

Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of our Time*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2001 edition recommended. Required: Chapters 1-3, 21; highly recommended: chapters 13, 15, 18, 19.

Walter Rodney, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, "Chapter 1: Some Questions on Development," London: Verso, 2018.

## **Week 3 - January 25<sup>th</sup> – Canadian Political Economy**

Mel Watkins, "A Staples Theory of Economic Growth" in Approaches to Canadian Economic History, edited by Easterbrook and Watkins. Carleton Library, McClelland and Stewart: Toronto, 1967 (original 1963) pp. 49-73.

Jim Stanford, "Mel Watkins and the Continuing Evolution of Staples Theory." *Studies in Political Economy* 101, no. 3 (2020): 280–287.

Mark P. Thomas and Leah Vosko, "Introduction: Canadian Political Economy in the New Millennium," in Mark P. Thomas, Leah Vosko, Carlo Fanelli and Olena Lyubchenko, eds., *Change and Continuity: Canadian Political Economy in the New Millennium*. Montreal/Kingston: McGill-Queens University Press, 3-17.

Glenn S. Coulthard, "Subjects of Empire: Indigenous Peoples and the 'Politics of Recognition' in Canada," *Contemporary Political Theory*, 6, 2007, 437–460.

Rebecca Hall, "Diamond Mining in Canada's Northwest Territories: A Colonial

Continuity," *Antipode*, 45:2, 2013, 376-393.

*Recommended:*

Heather Whiteside, *Canadian Political Economy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020

Mark P. Thomas, Leah Vosko, Carlo Fanelli and Olena Lyubchenko, eds., *Change and Continuity: Canadian Political Economy in the New Millennium*. Montreal/Kingston: McGill-Queens University Press, 2019.

Wallace Clement "Canadian Political Economy's Legacy for Sociology," Special Issue "Legacy for a New Millennium" edited by Harry H. Hiller, *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 26:3, 2001, 405-420.

Jane Jenson, "Representations in Crisis: The Roots of Canada's Permeable Fordism. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 23(4), 1990, 653-684.

Stephen McBride, "Quiet Constitutionalism: The International Political Economy of Domestic Institutional Change", *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 36, No.2, pp. 251-273.

Leah Vosko. 2002. "The Past (and Futures) of Feminist Political Economy in Canada. Reviving the Debate". *Studies In Political Economy* 68. pp. 55-83.

Meg Luxton. 2006. "Feminist Political Economy in Canada and the Politics of Social Reproduction". In *Social Reproduction: Feminist Political Economy Challenges Neo-Liberalism*. Editors Kate

Luin Goldring and Patricia Landolt, eds, *Producing and Negotiating Non-Citizenship: Precarious Legal Status in Canada* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013);

Christina Gabriel and Laura Macdonald, "Beyond the Continentalist/Nationalist Divide: Politics in a North America "Without Borders," in Wallace Clement and Leah F. Vosko, eds., *Changing Canada: Political Economy as Transformation*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003, 213-240.

#### **Week 4 – February 1<sup>st</sup> – International Political Economy**

Robert W. Cox, "Social Forces, States, and World Orders," in Robert Keohane, ed., *Neorealism and its Critics*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1986, pp. 204-254.

Susan Strange, "The Bondage of Liberal Economics," *SAIS Review of International Affairs*. 6, 1(1986): pp. 25-38.

Cristóbal Kay and Richard N. Gwynne, "Relevance of Structuralist and Dependency Theories in the Neoliberal Period: A Latin American Perspective," in Richard Harris

and Melinda Seid, eds., *Critical Perspectives on Globalization and Neoliberalism in the Developing Countries*, Brill, 2000, 49-69.

William Robinson, "Capitalist Globalization and the Transnationalization of the State," in Mark Rupert and Hazel Smith, eds., *Historical Materialism and Globalization*, London: Routledge, 2002, 210-229.

Mariana Mazzucato, "Governing the economics of the common good: from correcting market failures to shaping collective goals," *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*, 2023, DOI: [10.1080/17487870.2023.2280969](https://doi.org/10.1080/17487870.2023.2280969)

*Further reading:*

Lisa Tilley and Robbie Shilliam, eds., *Raced Markets*, Routledge, 2021.

V. Spike Peterson, *A Critical Rewriting of the Global Political Economy: Integrating reproductive, productive and virtual economies*. London, UK: Routledge, 2003.

John M. Hobson, "Part 1 – Revealing the Eurocentric Foundations of IPE: A critical historiography of the discipline from the classical to the modern era," *Review of International Studies*. 20: 5, 2013, 1024-1054.

Danielle Guizzo and Iara Vigo de Lima, "Polanyi and Foucault on the Issue of Market in Classical Political Economy: Complementary Approaches to the Radical Theory of Social Control," *Review of Radical Political Economics*. 49, 1, 2017, 100-113.

Frederick Mayer and Nicola Phillips, "Outsourcing governance: states and the politics of a 'global value chain world'," *New Political Economy*, Vol. 22, no. 2 (2017): 134- 152.

Genevieve LeBaron, "The political economy of the household: Neoliberal restructuring, enclosures, and daily life," *Review of International Political Economy*. 17, 5. (2010): pp. 889-912.

## **Week 5 – February 8<sup>th</sup> – Comparative Political Economy**

Thomas Piketty, *Capitalism in the Twenty-First Century*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, Introduction, 1-35.

Colin Hay, "Does capitalism (still) come in varieties?", *Review of International Political Economy*, 27: 2, 2020, 302-319.

Nancy Fraser, "From Redistribution to Recognition? Dilemmas of Justice in a 'Postsocialist Age'" In Nancy Fraser, ed., *Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflections on the "Postsocialist" Condition* (pp. 11–39). NY: Routledge, 199, 11–39

Ha-Joon Chang, "An Institutionalist Perspective on the Role of the State: Towards an Institutionalist Political Economy", in I. Burlamaqui, A. Castro, and H-J. Chang, eds, *Institutions and the Role of the State*. London: Edward Elgar, 1997.

Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez, "Free Mining Body Land and the Reproduction of Indigenous Life," In Fiona MacDonald and Alexandra Dobrowolsky, eds., *Turbulent Times, Transformational Possibilities: Gender and Politics Today and Tomorrow*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020, 159-176.

*Further Reading:*

Mark Blyth, "Any more bright ideas? The Ideational turn of comparative political economy," *Comparative Politics*, 29:2, 1997, 229-50.

Lyle A. Scruggs and James P. Allan, "Social Stratification and Welfare Regimes for the Twenty-first Century: Revisiting 'the Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism,'" *World Politics*, 60, 4, 2008, 642-64.

Magnus Feldmann, "Global Varieties of Capitalism," *World Politics*, 71:1, 2019, 162-96.

John M. Hobson and Leonard Seabrooke, "Everyday International Political Economy. In M. Blyth ed., *Routledge Handbook of International Political Economy (IPE): IPE As a Global Conversation*. New York: Routledge, 2010, 290-306.

Juanita Elias and Adrienne Roberts, "Feminist Global Political Economies of the Everyday: From Bananas to Bingo," *Globalizations*, 13:6, 2016, 787-800.

Mark Blyth. "The Austerity Delusion: Why a Bad Idea Won Over the West." *Foreign Affairs* 92:3, 2013, 41-56.

Anna Tsing, "Supply Chains and the Human Condition," *Rethinking Marxism*, 21:2, 2009, 148-76.

Anna Tsing, "Contingent Commodities: Mobilizing Labor in and Beyond Southeast Asian Forests." In Joseph Nevins and Nancy Lee Peluso, eds., *Taking Southeast Asia to Market: Commodities, Nature, and People in the Neoliberal Age*, Cornell, 2008, 27-42.

David Harvey, *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford UP, 2007.

David Harvey, *Seventeen Contradictions and the End of Capitalism*, Oxford UP, 2014.

Nancy Fraser, "Behind Marx's Hidden Abode: For an Expanded Conception of Capitalism," *New Left Review* Mar-Apr 2014, 55-72.

**Week 6 – February 15<sup>th</sup> - Development – Guest speakers: Susan Spronk and Jody-Ann Anderson, University of Ottawa**

Susan Spronk and Jody-Ann Anderson, "Critical Political Economy of Development," in Paul A. Haslam, Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, eds. *Introduction to International Development*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Oxford University Press, 2021, 60-76.

Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*, New York: Anchor Books, 1999 (Focus on Introduction, Chapters 1, 5 and 11).

Andrea Cornwall and Althea María Rivas, "From 'gender equality and 'women's empowerment' to global justice: reclaiming a transformative agenda for gender and development," *Third World Quarterly*, 36:2, 2015, 396-415.

Caroline Shenaz Hossein, "A Black Epistemology for the Social and Solidarity Economy: The Black Social Economy," *The Review of Black Political Economy*, 4:3, 2019, 209-229. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0034644619865266>

*Further Reading:*

Charles Gore, "The Rise and Fall of the Washington Consensus as a Paradigm for Developing Countries," *World Development*, 28: 5, 2000, 789-804.

Peter Evans, "The State as Problem and Solution: Predation, Embedded Autonomy, and Structural Change," in Stephan Haggard, and Robert Kaufman, eds., *Politics of Economic Adjustment*, Princeton University Press, 139-181.

Cristóbal Kay, "Why East Asia Overtook Latin America: Agrarian Reform, Industrialization, and Development," *Third World Quarterly*, 23: 6, 2002, 1073-1102.

Ha-Joon Chang, "Kicking Away the Ladder: Infant Industry Promotion in Historical Perspective," *Oxford Development Studies*, 31:1, 2003, 21-32.

Stephan Haggard, 2015. "The developmental state is dead: long live the developmental state!", in James Mahoney and Kathleen Thelen (ed), *Advances in Comparative Historical Analysis*. Chapter 2 (39-56).

## **February 19 to 23<sup>rd</sup> – Reading Week**

### **Week 7 –March 1<sup>st</sup> – Feminist Political Economy**

Nancy Fraser, "Contradictions of Capital and Care," *New Left Review*, 100, 2016, 99-117.

Silvia Federici, *Caliban and the Witch*, Brooklyn: Autonomedia, 2004, Chapter 1, 1-19.

Shirin Rai, "Social Reproduction and Depletion," *feminists@law*, 12:2, 2023. <https://journals.kent.ac.uk/index.php/feministsatlaw/article/view/1221/2213>

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas. 2001. *Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration, and Domestic Work*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press. Chapters 1, 2.

Juanita Elias and Adrienne Roberts, "Feminist Global Political Economies of the Everyday: From Bananas to Bingo," *Globalizations*, 13:6, 2016, 787-800

Nicola J. Smith, 'Queer Political Economy', *Capitalism's Sexual History*. New York: Oxford Academic 2020.

*Further reading:*

Nancy Fraser, *Cannibal Capitalism: How Our System is Devouring Democracy, Care, and the Planet and What We Can Do About It*, London: Verso.

Nancy Fraser, 2014. "Behind Marx's Hidden Abode: For an Expanded Conception of Capitalism," *New Left Review* 55-72.

Sylvia Chant and Caroline Sweetman Fixing women or fixing the world? 'Smart economics', efficiency approaches, and gender equality in development, *Gender & Development*, 20:3, 2012, 517-529, DOI: [10.1080/13552074.2012.731812](https://doi.org/10.1080/13552074.2012.731812)

Alessandra Mezzadri, "A Value Theory of Inclusion: Informal Labour, the Homeworker, and the Social Reproduction of Value." *Antipode* 53:4, 2021, 1186–1205.

Shahra Razavi, 2009. "Engendering the Political Economy of Agrarian Change." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 36:1, 2009, 197-226.

Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, James Heintz and Stephanie Seguino, "Critical Perspectives on Financial and Economic Crises: Heterodox Macroeconomics Meets Feminist Economics." *Feminist Economics* 19:3, 2013, 4–31.

Isabella Bakker and Stephen Gill. "Rethinking Power, Production, and Social Reproduction: Toward Variegated Social Reproduction." *Capital and Class* 43:4, 2019, 503–523.

**Week 8 – March 7<sup>th</sup> – Environment/Climate Change/Nature**

Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies, *Ecofeminism*, London: Zed Books, Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 1-35.

Kyle Whyte, "Too Late for Indigenous Climate Justice: Ecological and Relational Tipping Points." *WIREs Climate Change* 11:1, 2020: e603.

Jennifer Clapp, "Mega-Mergers on the Menu: Corporate Concentration and the Politics of Sustainability in the Global Food System," *Global Environmental Politics* 18, no. 2 (2018): 12– 33.

Sherilyn MacGregor, "Making Matter Great Again? Ecofeminism, New Materialism and the Everyday Turn in Environmental Politics," *Environmental Politics* 30, no. 1-2 (2021): 41–60.

*Further reading:*

WEA and NYSHM. *The Violence on the Land, Violence on Our Bodies. Building an Indigenous Response to Environmental Violence*. Toronto: Women's Earth Alliance and Native Youth Sexual Health Network, 2016.

Whyte, Kyle. "Indigenous Climate Change Studies : Indigenizing Futures, Decolonizing the Anthropocene." *English Language Notes* 55(1) (2017): 153–62.

Andreas Malm, *Fossil Capital: The Rise of Steam Power and the Roots of Global Warming*, London: Verso, 2016.

Andreas Malm, *How To Blow Up a Pipeline: Learning to Fight in a World on Fire*, London: Verso, 2023.

Helena Shilomboleni, "Political Economy Challenges for Climate Smart Agriculture in Africa," *Agriculture and Human Values*. 37: 4,2020, 1195–1206.

Foster, John Bellamy., Brett. Clark, and Richard York. *The Ecological Rift: Capitalism's War on the Earth*. New York: Monthly Review Press, 2010.

Davis, Janae, Alex A. Moulton, Levi Van Sant, and Brian Williams. "Anthropocene, Capitalocene,... Plantationocene?: A Manifesto for Ecological Justice in an Age of Global Crises." *Geography Compass* 13, no. 5 (2019).

Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts: El Niño Famines and the Making of the Third World*. London: Verso, 2001.

Timothy Mitchell, *Carbon Democracy : Political Power in the Age of Oil*. London: Verso, 2011.

Michael Lowy, "Eco-Socialism and Democratic Planning." *Socialist register* 43 (2007).

Sara H Nelson, and Patrick Bigger. "Infrastructural Nature." *Progress in human geography* 46, no. 1 (2022): 86–107. (21 pages)

## **Week 9 March 14<sup>th</sup> -- Decolonial/Pluriversal Theory Guest speaker: TBA**

Maggie FitzGerald, *Care and the Pluriverse*, Bristol: Bristol University Press, Introduction.

Rita Dhamoon, "A feminist approach to decolonizing anti-racism: Rethinking transnationalism, intersectionality, and settler colonialism," *Feral Feminisms*, 4, 2015, 20-37.

Anibal Quijano, "Coloniality and Modernity/Rationality," *Cultural Studies*, 21, 2007, 2-3 and 168-178.

Owen Toews, *Stolen City: Racial Capitalism and the Making of Winnipeg*. Winnipeg: Arbeiter Ring Publishing, 2018, Introduction and Conclusion.

### *Further reading:*

Edward Said, *Orientalism*, London: Penguin, 1995.

Ilan Kapoor, "Capitalism, Culture, Agency: Dependency versus Postcolonial Theory," *Third World Quarterly*, 23:4, 2002, 647-664.

Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism*, New York: Vintage, 1993.

Gayatri C. Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?, in: C Nelson & L Grossberg, eds, *Marxism and Interpretation of Culture*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988, 271-313.

Stuart Hall, "The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power," in S. Hall et al., eds., *Modernity: An Introduction to Modern Societies*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1996, 184-227.

María Lugones, "Toward a Decolonial Feminism," *Hypatia*, 25:4, 2010, 742-759.

Pal Ahluwalia, "The Wonder of the African Market: Post-colonial Inflections," *Pretexts, literary and cultural studies*, 12: 2, 2003, 133-144

Tanya Murray Li, *The Will to Improve: Governmentality, Development and the Practice of Politics*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2007.

Dipesh Chakrabarty, "The Idea of Provincializing Europe" in *Provincializing Europe. Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000, 3-23.

Sarah J. Martin, "The Political Economy of Distillers' Grains and the Frictions of Consumption." *Environmental Politics*. 29, no. 2 (2020): 297–316.

## **Week 10 – March 21<sup>st</sup> -- Neoliberalism and Beyond(?)**

Jamie Peck and Adam Tickell, "Neoliberalizing Space," *Antipode*, 34: 380–404.

Francesco Laruffa, "Making Sense of (Post)Neoliberalism," *Politics and Society*, pre-publication on-line access, <https://doi-org.proxy.library.carleton.ca/10.1177/00323292231193805>

Nancy Fraser, "From Redistribution to Recognition? Dilemmas of Justice in a 'Postsocialist Age'" In Nancy Fraser, ed., *Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflections on the "Postsocialist" Condition* (pp. 11–39). NY: Routledge, 1999, 11–39.

Quinn Slobodian, *The Globalists*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2018, Chapter 1, 1-26.

Neil Brenner, Jamie Peck, Nik Theodore, "After Neoliberalization?" *Globalizations* September 2010, Vol. 7, No. 3, pp. 327–345

### *Further reading:*

Alfredo Saad-Filho and Deborah Johnston: *Neoliberalism: A Critical Reader*, Pluto Press, 2004.

David Harvey, "Neoliberalism as Creative Destruction," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 610 (2007): 22-44

Charles Hale, "Neoliberal multiculturalism: The remaking of cultural rights and racial dominance in Central America," *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, 28:1, 2005, 10-28.

Elinor Ostrom, "Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems," *American Economic Review*, 100, 2010, 1-33.

Juanita Elias, "Stitching Up the Labour Market: Recruitment, Gender and Ethnicity in the Multinational Firm," *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 7:1, 2005, 90-111.

Joseph E Stiglitz, (2008) The end of neo-liberalism? Project Syndicate Commentary, July, accessed at <http://www.project-syndicate.org>.

### **Week 11 – March 28<sup>th</sup> – Student Presentations**

### **Week 12 – April 4<sup>th</sup> – Student Presentations**

- Social event to follow class