Carleton University  
Summer 2018  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**SOCI 5805**  
Sociologies of Global Capitalism

**Instructor:** Mark Thomas  
**Office:** 1503 Dunton Tower  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday, 15:00-16:00  
**Phone:** 613-520-2600 ext. 7566  
**Email:** MarkPThomas@cunet.carleton.ca

**Seminar Times:** Tuesday & Thursday, 11:35-14:25  
**Seminar Location:** 1524 Dunton Tower

**Course Description**  
This course constructs a sociological analysis of the economy by combining developments in the fields of economic sociology, political economy, and global sociology in order to study contemporary global capitalism. The social organization of capitalist markets, the social implications of economic processes, and the sociological bases of economic power are explored through Marxist, institutionalist, network, feminist, and postcolonial perspectives. Beginning with the assertion that economic relations have a social basis, the course examines a range of sociological perspectives on the interrelationships between ‘the social’ and ‘the economic’, the power relations that characterize capitalism as a social system, and the tensions, contradictions and conflicts that shape the social organization of capitalist economies.

**Organization of the Course**  
In the first half of the course, we cover several foundational sociological theorists of the economy (Marx, Weber, Polanyi) and their legacies. Through the concept of ‘embeddedness’, a key concept in economic sociology, we investigate the ways in which processes of capital accumulation are embedded in a range of social relations and processes. In the second half of the course, using the work of contemporary social theorists of the economy we investigate a series of topics related to global capitalism, including the spatial reorganization of the global economy, the feminization of global production, the social organization of consumerism, and alternatives to contemporary capitalism.

**Required Reading**  
Required course readings are available through ARES.

**Evaluation**  

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper proposal</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Research Paper**
Students must prepare a research paper of approximately 5000 words related to the themes of the course. Topics may come directly from course readings and discussions, or they may be related to a student’s more specific research interests, so long as they are connected to the overall course themes.

*Submission:* The research paper is due June 25 and should be submitted electronically.

**Paper Proposal**
A proposal outlining the paper topic must be submitted by May 31. The proposal should be 500-750 words, plus a working bibliography.

**Presentation**
Each student must make a presentation and lead a seminar discussion based on course readings. Presentations should outline the contributions of the required texts to the class topic and the course overall, explore connections and/or tensions between the readings, and consider their application to issues related to contemporary global capitalism. To assist the seminar group in preparing for the discussion, each presenter will submit 3–4 discussion questions the evening before the class in which they will present.

**Seminar Participation**
Students are expected to come to class having read all required material and prepared to participate in seminar discussions. To promote seminar participation, discussion questions will be circulated in advance of the class (*as above*).
COURSE SCHEDULE

May 8  Introduction - Toward a Sociology of the Economy

- Overview of course themes
- Discussion of reading materials, writing assignments, and organization of seminar time
- Presentations sign-up

Recommended


Supplementary


May 10  Embedding the Economic in the Social

  - “Satanic Mill”, 35-80, 116-35.
  - “Self-Protection of Society”, 136-228.

Supplementary

May 15  

**Capital Accumulation and The Protestant Ethic**

  - “Luther’s Conception of the Calling”, 39-50.
  - “The Religious Foundations of Worldly Asceticism” (Calvinism), 53-80.
  - “Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism”, 102-25.

**Supplementary**


May 17  

**Class Relations and Wage Labour**

  - Chapter 1: The Two Factors of the Commodity, 125-31
  - Chapter 1: The Fetishism of the Commodity and its Secret, 163-77.
  - Chapter 6: The Sale and Purchase of Labour-Power, 270-80

**Supplementary**

May 22 Capital Accumulation and Dispossession


Supplementary


May 24 Capitalism and Reproductive Labour


Supplementary


May 29   Spatializing Global Capitalism

Supplementary

May 31   Global Capitalism and Financialization

Supplementary
June 5  Gendering Global Production


Supplementary


June 7  Provincializing Global Capitalism

  - The Two Histories of Capital, 47-71
  - Translating Life-Worlds into Labor and History, 72-96.
  - Capital’s Universalizing Tendency, 101-29
  - Capital, Abstract Labor, and Difference, 130-51.

Supplementary


**June 12 Consumption, Consumers, and Consumerism**


**Supplementary**


**June 14 Beyond Capitalism?**


**Supplementary**

June 19  Course Conclusion

- Presentation of term paper proposals

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.
University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university’s website, here:

http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable).

*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for final exams for the June 2018 exam period is June 1, 2018.

For Religious Obligations:
Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory event.

Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.

For Pregnancy:
Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar.
What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?
A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including: expulsion; suspension from all studies at Carleton; suspension from full-time studies; and/or a reprimand; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; academic probation; award of an FNS, Fail, or an ABS.

What are the Procedures?
All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and/or departmental chairs.

The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism.

The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

Plagiarism and cheating at the graduate level are viewed as being particularly serious and the sanctions imposed are accordingly severe. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Plagiarism and cheating – presenting another’s ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data, unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the graduate degree. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties including: expulsion; suspension from all studies at Carleton; suspension from full-time studies; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; academic probation; or a grade of Failure in the course.

Assistance for Students:
Academic and Career Development Services: http://carleton.ca/sacds/
Writing Services: http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/
Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/

Important Information:
• Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
• Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
• 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.
• Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton’s Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) within the university.
• In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your MyCarletonOne account through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the MyCarleton Portal.
• Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to
your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting https://students.carleton.ca/.

**Important Dates**

**SUMMER 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 7, 2018</td>
<td>Early summer and full summer classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14, 2018</td>
<td>Last day for registration and course changes for early summer courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18, 2018</td>
<td>Last day for registration and course changes for full summer courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18-29, 2018</td>
<td>Fall/winter and winter term deferred final examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21, 2018</td>
<td>Statutory holiday – University closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2018</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from early summer and full summer courses with a full fee adjustment (withdrawals after this date result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1, 2018</td>
<td>Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodation Forms for June examinations to the PMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 19, 2018</td>
<td>Last day of early summer classes (full summer classes resume July 3)</td>
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<td>Last day for academic withdrawal from early summer courses</td>
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<td>Last day for handing in term assignments</td>
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<td>June 22-28, 2018</td>
<td>Final examinations in early summer courses and midterm examinations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>in full summer courses may be held</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 28, 2018</td>
<td>All take home examinations are due on this day</td>
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