

Bowie State University

Philosophy 400 Independent Study

Topic: Karl Marx and Alienation

Fall 2011 (updated)	Instructor: Dr. Fred Mills	301-860-3605
Office Hours	M 08AM-09AM, 11AM-01PM, W 11AM-01PM, 02PM-05PM Rm0217MLK	Email given in class

I. Course Prerequisites: ENGLISH 101, PHILOSOPHY 101

II. Course Description

This independent study on Karl Marx will explore Marx's general critique of Capitalism, methodology in political economy, and focus on the theory of alienation as presented in the Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844. The course uses primary sources from the young Marx, the entire Communist Manifesto, selections from Capital, and secondary sources that address both the general and focus issues.

III. Required Text

Marx, K. (2010). (i)Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844. Radford, VA: Wilder Publishers. (Original texts cover the period 1843-1844)

Marx, K. and Engels, F. (2011). *The Communist manifesto*. New York: Soho Press. (First German edition published in 1872)

Marx, K. (1994). *Marx: Early Political Writings* (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) (Paperback) by Karl Marx, Richard A. Davis, Joseph J. O'Malley (Editor), Raymond Geuss (Series Editor), Quentin Skinner (Series Editor) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Original German Texts are from the early 1843-1844 period).

Selections from K. Marx, Capital, will be given in class.

Secondary Source:

Harvey, D. (2010). *A Companion to Marx's Capital*. New York: Verso.

Recommended materials

Carver, T (Editor) (1991). *The Cambridge Companion to Marx*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Khan, N. (1995). *Development of the Concept and Theory of Alienation in Marx's Writings: March 1843 to August 1844* (Hardcover). Solum Forlag

Easton, L. D. (1961). *Alienation and history in the early Marx* (Unknown Binding) Published for the International Phenomenological Society by the State University of New York at Buffalo.

V. Learning objectives

Students are expected to attain the following (objectives) competencies:

1. understand Marx's dialectical method;
2. identify themes in Hegel that influenced Marx;
3. understand the concept of alienated labor, including its various forms;
4. identify the basic features of Marx's critique of private property;
5. summarize Marx's critique of Hegel's dialectic and philosophy in general;
6. explain how the Communist Manifesto addresses the issues raised in the theory of alienation.
7. take a position, in a term paper, on the significance of Marx's theory of alienation as it applies to contemporary labor, the use of technology and public policy towards labor in the United States.

VI. Teaching Methodology

This independent study involves one student and will therefore employ Socratic dialogue and a detailed reading and discussion of primary sources. Secondary sources will be consulted, especially as regards their use in the term paper.

VII. Student Requirements

The student will attend discussion meetings and submit periodic drafts of the term paper. The term paper will be evaluated four times, that is, once per month, including the final version to be submitted on the last day of class.

VIII. Grading/Evaluation Procedures

The term paper will be developed into a ten to fourteen page high quality critical work on Marx's theory of alienation. The paper will be graded in three stages:

- Month One: Outline, selection of texts and other source materials, and a thesis statement. 20 points.
- Month Two: The extension of the thesis statement into at least four pages of text. 20 points.
- Month Three: A draft of the entire paper will be submitted, including bibliography using APA format. 20 points.
- Month four: Final term paper submission. 20 points
- Participation: Critical discussion of the readings and arguments of the student paper. 20 points.

Web sites

For the philosophy documentation center see: [DOC CENTER](#) This site can also be used as a reference tool.

Some publishers of books on philosophy

For MIT press see: <http://mitpress.mit.edu>

For Prentice Hall see: <http://www.prenhall.com>

For Blackwell see: <http://www.blackwellpub.com>

XI. Announcements

ADA Information

Students who have a disability and think that they may need special accommodations should report to the Office of Disability Support Services to Room 316 (Center for Learning & Technology building) or call Mr. Hughes at extension 3292

English Proficiency Examination

After completing ENGL 101 and 102, Composition and Literature I and II, students must take and successfully pass the Bowie State University English Proficiency Examination. Transfer students who completed their English composition requirements at another university should take the English Proficiency Examination during their first semester of enrollment at the University.

NOTE: THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS SYLLABUS IN RESPONSE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES AND WILL NOTIFY STUDENTS IN WRITING OF SUCH CHANGES.

Other secondary sources

- Althusser, Louis. 1969. *For Marx*. New York: Random House.
- Althusser, Louis and Etienne Balibar. 1977. *Reading Capital*. London: New Left Books.
- Arthur, C.J. 1986. *Dialectics of Labour: Marx and His Relation to Hegel*. New York: Blackwell.
- Avineri, Shlomo. 1968. *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Barbalet, J.M. 1983. *Marx's Construction of Social Theory*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Bologh, Roslyn Wallach. 1979. *Dialectical Phenomenology: Marx's Method*. Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Cleaver, Harry. 1979. *Reading Capital Politically*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
- Cohen, G.A. 1978. *Karl Marx's Theory of History: A Defense*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Cohen, G.A. 1988. *History, Labour, and Freedom: Themes from Marx*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Colletti, Lucio. 1979. *Marxism and Hegel*. London: New Left Books.
- Cutler, Anthony, Barry Hindess, Paul Hirst, and Athar Hussain, *Marx's Capital and Capitalism Today*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Draper, Hal. 1977. *Karl Marx's Theory of Revolution*. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Elster, Jon. 1985. *Making Sense of Marx*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Fine, Ben and Laurence Harris. 1979. *Rereading Capital*. London: Macmillan.
- Foster, John B. 2000. *Marx's Ecology: Materialism and Nature*. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Gilbert, Alan. 1981. *Marx's Politics: Communists and Citizens*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Gould, Carol C. 1978. *Marx's Social Ontology*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Gouldner, Alvin. 1980. *The Two Marxisms*. New York: Seabury Press.
- Graham, Keith. 1992. *Karl Marx: Our Contemporary*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Korsch, Karl. 1970. *Marxism and Philosophy*. New York: Monthly Review Press.

- Leopold, David. 2009. *The Young Karl Marx: German Philosophy, Modern Politics, and Human Flourishing*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Little, Daniel. 1986. *The Scientific Marx*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Lukes, Steven. 1985. *Marxism and Morality*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Mandel, Ernest. 1968. *Marxist Economic Theory*. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Mandel, Ernest. 1971. *The Formation of the Economic Thought of Karl Marx*. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Marx, K and Engels, F. (2011). *The German Ideology*. Martino Fine Books.
- McLellan, David. 1973. *Karl Marx: His Life and Thought*. London: Macmillan.
- McMurtry, John. 1978. *The Structure of Marx's World-View*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Mepham, John and D-H. Ruben. 1979. *Issues in Marxist Philosophy*. Brighton, England: Harvester Press. 2
- Meszaros, Istvan. 1970. *Marx's Theory of Alienation*. London: Merlin Press.
- Miller, Richard W. 1984. *Analyzing Marx: Morality, Power, History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Olmann, Bertell. 1971. *Alienation: Marx's Conception of Man in Capitalist Society*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Phillips, Paul. 1980. *Marx and Engels on Law and Laws*. Totowa, NJ: Barnes and Noble Books.
- Rader, Melvin. 1979. *Marx's Interpretation of History*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Rattansi, Ali. 1982. *Marx and the Division of Labor*. London: Macmillan.
- Rubin, Isaak Illich. 1972. *Essays on Marx's Theory of Value*. Detroit: Black and Red.
- Sayer, Derek. 1979. *Marx's Method*. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Humanities Press.
- Seliger, Martin. 1977. *The Marxist Conception of Ideology*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Shaw, William H. 1978. *Marx's Theory of History*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Vogel, Lise. 1983. *Marxism and the Oppression of Women*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Walton, Paul and Andrew Gamble. 1972. *From Alienation to Surplus Value*. London: Sheed and Ward.