

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS

G53.2140 Prof. B. Ollman

**POLITICAL THEORY: COMMUNISM**

*Select Bibliography and Reading List*

There are a great many books containing selections from the writings of Marx and Engels. The most important of these for this course are as follows:

I. McLellan, D. ed., *The Thought of Karl Marx*

II. Easton, L., and Guddat, K., eds., *Writings of the Young Marx on Philosophy and Society*

III. Selsam, H. and Martel, H., eds., *Reader in Marxist Philosophy*

IV. *Marx/Engels: Selected Works* (International, 1 vol.)

These works will be referred to as **I**, **II**, **III**, **IV** in what follows.

I have also put one star in front of the works I consider particularly important and two stars in front of those I consider essential, that is in the context of this course.

**I. "SETTING THE PROBLEM: MARX'S AND OUR OWN"**

**A. Introductory Works**

\* Engels, F., *Socialism: Utopian and Scientific*

\*\* Marx, K, and Engels, F. *Communist Manifesto*

Ollman, B., "*What Is Marxism? A Bird's-Eye View*" (pamphlet)

\*\* Ollman, B., *How to Take an Exam and Remake the World*

Parenti, M., *Democracy for a Few*

Rius, *Marx for Beginners*

Tressell, R., *The Ragged Troussered Philanthropist*

## **B. Biographies**

Berlin, I., *Karl Marx* (the most literate)

McLellan, D., *Karl Marx* (the most scholarly)

Mehring, F., *Karl Marx* (the most passionate)

## **C. General**

\* I, Part 1

\* III, Part 1

Arnold, S., *Marx's Radical Critique of Capitalist Society*

\* Avineri, S., *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*

Berman, M., *Adventures in Marxism*

Cameron, K., *Marxism: The Science of Society*

Carver, T., *Marx and Engels: The Intellectual Relationship*

Eagleton, T., *Marx*

Elster, J., *An Introduction to Karl Marx*

\*\* Fischer, E., *How to Read Karl Marx*

Gurley, F.G., *Challengers to Capitalism*

Harrington, M., *The Twilight of Capitalism*

Heilbroner, R., *Marxism: For and Against*

Hodges, D., "Engels' Contribution to Marxism", *Socialist Register*, 1985

Hook, S., *Toward an Understanding of Karl Marx*

Lichtheim, G., *Marxism*

\*\* Mandel, E., *The Place of Marxism in History*

Ollman, B., and Vernoff, E., eds., *The Left Academy: Marxist Scholarship on American Campuses*, vol. I

\* Suchting, W., *Marx*

\* Williams, W.A., *The Great Evasion*

Wilson, E., *To the Finland Station*

## **2. "The Philosophical Underpinnings of Marx's Solution: Materialism and Dialectics"**

\* Engels, F., *Anti-Duhring*

\* Marx, K., "Critical Battle Against French Materialism", *Holy Family* (II)

\* Marx, K., "Theses on Feuerbach", (II, IV)

\* Marx, K., "Critique of the Hegelian Philosophy", *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844* (II)

\* **III**, Parts 2-5

Althusser, L., *For Marx*

Ash, W., *Marxism and Moral Concepts*

Bhaskar, R., *Dialectic: The Pulse of Freedom*

Dunayevskaya, R., *Marxism and Freedom*

Dupre, L., *The Philosophical Foundations of Marxism*

Gollobin, I., *Dialectic Materialism*

Gould, C., *Marx's Social Ontology*

Gramsci, A., *The Prison Notebooks*, Part 3

Hook, S., *From Hegel to Marx*

Hyppolite, J., *Studies on Marx and Hegel*

Ilyenkov, E.V., *Dialectic Logic*

Israel, J., *The Language of Dialectics*

Jordan, Z.A., *The Evolution of Dialectical Materialism*

Kleinbach, R.L., *Marx via Process*

Kolowski, L., *Main Currents of Marxism*, vol I

\* Korsch, K., *Marxism and Philosophy*

\* Kosik, K., *Dialectics of the Concrete*

\*\* Lukacs, G., *History and Class Consciousness*, Chap 1

Mao Tse Tung, *Four Essays on Philosophy*

\*\* Marcuse, H., *Reason and Revolution*

Meikle, S., *Essentialism in the Thought of Karl Marx*

Mephram, J., and Reuben, D.-H., *Issues in Marxist Philosophy*, vols. I-III

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation: Marx's Conception of Man in Capitalist Society*, Part I and Appendixes I and II

\*\* Ollman, B., *Dialectical Investigations*, Chaps. 1 and 2

Rees, J., *The Algebra of Revolution: The Dialectic and the Classical Marxist Tradition*

Popper, K., *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, vol. II

Reuben, D.-H., *Marxism and Materialism*

Sayers, D., *The Violence of Abstraction*

Sohn-Rethel, A., *Intellectual and Manual Labor: A Critique of Epistemology*

Timpanaro, S., *On Materialism*

Wood, A., *Karl Marx*

Zeleny, J., *The Logic of Marx*

### 3. "Human Nature and Alienation: Where Science, Criticism, and Vision Meet"

\* Marx, K., *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844*

\* Marx, K., *Capital*, Part I, Section 4

\* I, Part 2

\* III, Part 7

Aptdeker, H., ed. *Marxism and Alienation*

Foster, J.B., *Marx's Ecology: Materialism and Nature*

Fromm, E., *Marx's Conception of Man*, Introduction

\*\* Geras, N., *Marx and Human Nature*

Heller, A., *The Theory of Need in Marx*

\* Israel, J., *Alienation from Marx to Modern Sociology*

Kamenka, E., *The Ethical Foundations of Marxism*

\* Lefebvre, H., *Critique of Everyday Life*

\* Marcuse, H., *One-Dimensional Man*

\*\* Meszaros, I., *Marx's Theory of Alienation*

\*\* Ollman, B. *Alienation*, Chaps. 7-23, and 29

Ollman, B., *Class Struggle Is The Name of the Game: True Confessions of a Marxist Businessman*

O'Malley, J., "History and Man's Nature in Marx", in *Marx's Socialism*, ed. By S. Avineri

Peffer, R., *Marxism and Ethics*

\* Petrovich, G. *Marx in the Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century*, Part 2

\* Plamenatz, J., *Karl Marx's Philosophy of Man*

Rubel, M., *Rubel on Marx*

Sayers, S., *Is There a Marxist Theory of Human Nature?*

Schacht, R., *Alienation*

Walliman, I., *Estrangement*

Walton, P., and Gamble, A., *From Alienation to Surplus Value*

#### **4. "Political Economy of Capitalism: From Value and Accumulation of Capital to Fetishism and Crisis"**

\*\* Marx, K., "Wage Labor and Capital", IV

\*\* Marx, K., "Wages, Price and Profit", IV

\* Marx, K., *Grundrisse*, ed. by D. McLellan

\* Marx, K., *Capital I*, Parts 1-7

Althusser, L., *Reading Capital*

Arthur, C., *The Dialectics of Labor*

Bohm-Bawerk, L. von, *Karl Marx and the Close of His System*

Cleaver, H. *Reading Capital Politically*

Dobb, M., *Theories of Value and Distribution Since Adam Smith*

Dunayevskaya, R., *Marxism and Freedom*

Fine, B., *Marx's Capitalism*

Gottheil, F., *Marx's Economic Predictions*

Harrington, M., *Socialism*, Chapter 5

\* Harvey, D., *The Limits of Capital*

Howard, M.C., and King, J.E., *The Political Economy of Marx*

\* Mandel, E., *The Formation of Marx's Economic Thought*

\*\* Mandel, E., *Introduction to Marx's Economics*

Mandel, E., *Late Capitalism*

Mattick, P., *Marx and Keynes*

Meek, R.L., *Studies in the Labor Theory of Value*

Mephram, J. "The Theory of Ideology in Capital", *Radical Philosophy* (Summer 1972)

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation*, Chapters 24-28

Robinson, J., *An Essay on Marxian Economics*

Roosevelt, F., "Cambridge Economics as Commodity Fetishism",

*The Review of Radical Political Economics* (Winter 1975)

Rosdolsky, R., *The Making of Marx's Capital*

\* Rubel, M., *Rubel on Marx*, Chapters 3 and 4

\* Rubin, I.I., *Essays on Marx's Theory of Value*

Sekine, T., *An Outline of the Dialectics of Capital*

\* Smith, T., *The Logic of Marx's Capital*

\* Suchting, W., *Marx*, Part 3

\*\* Sweezy, P., *The Theory of Capitalist Development*

Waton, P., and Gamble, A., *From Alienation to Surplus Value*

**5. "Is Democracy Compatible with Class Dictatorship? State and Politics in Modern Capitalism, Capitalism and Class Societies"**

\* Engels, F., *Origins of the Family, Private Property and the State*

Marx, K., *Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of the State*, ed. by J. O'Malley (also introduced by O'Malley)

\* I, Part 2

Althusser, L., "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses", *Lenin and Philosophy*

Beirne, P., and Sharlet, R., *Pashukanis: Selected Writings on Marxism and Law*

Blackburn, R., ed., *Ideologies in the Social Sciences*

Carnoy, M., *The State and Political Theory*

Corrigan, P., *Capitalism, State Formation and Political Theory*

\* Draper, H., *Karl Marx Theory of Revolution*, vols. I-IV

\* Gilbert, A., *Marx's Politics*

\* Gramsci, A., *Prison Notebooks*, Part 2

Habermas, J., *Legitimation Problems in Late Capitalism*

Hook, S., *Toward an Understanding Of Karl Marx*, Chapters 17-19

Hunt, R., *The Political Ideas of Marx and Engels*, vols. I, II

Larrain, J., *Marxism and Ideology*

\* Lefebvre, H., *The Sociology of Marx*

Lichtman, R., *Marx's Theory of Ideology and Other Essays*

\* Lenin, V.L., *State and Revolution*

Mezsaros, I., *The Power of Ideology*

Miliband, R., *The State in Capitalist Theory*

\*\* Miliband, R., *Marxism and Politics*

Miliband, R., *Divided Societies: Class Struggle in Contemporary Capitalism*

\*\* Milliband, R., and Poulantzas, N., "The Problem of the Capitalist State", *Ideology and Social Science*, ed. by R. Blackburn

Moore, S., *The Critique of Capitalist Democracy*

\*\* Nimtz, A.N., *Marx and Engels, Their Contribution to the Democratic Breakthrough*

O'Connor, J., *The Fiscal Crisis of The State*

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation*, Chapters 29-32

\*\* Ollman, B., *Dialectic Investigations* Chaps. 3-5

Ollman, B., and Birnbaum, J., eds. *The US Constitution: 200 Years of Criticism*

\* Ollman, B., "What is Political Science? What Should It Be?" *New Political Science* (December 2000)

\* Ollman, B. "Why Does the Emperor Need the Yakuza? Prolegomenon to a Marxist Theory of a Japanese State," *New Left Review* (Mar/Apr 2001)

\* Parenti, M., *Democracy for a Few*

\* Poulantzas, N., *Political Power and Social Class*

Renner, K., *The Institution of Private Laws and Their Social Function*

Thomas, P., *Karl Marx and the Anarchists*

Thomas, P., *Alien Politics*

Wright, E.O., *Class, Crisis, and the State*

## **6. "The History of Modern Capitalism, Capitalism and Class Societies: The Dialectical Relationship Between 'Base' and 'Superstructure'"**

\* Marx, K., "The 18<sup>th</sup> of Brumaire", IV

\* Marx, K., "Civil War in France", IV

\* Marx, K., "Class Struggle in France", IV

\*\* Marx, K., *Capital*, Part 8

\*\* Marx, K., and Engels, F., *German Ideology*, Parts 1 and 3

\*\* II, Parts 6 and 7

Anderson, P., *In the Tracks of Historical Materialism*

Aronowitz, S., *The Crisis in Historical Materialism*

Bober, M.M., *Karl Marx's Interpretation of History*

Bukharin, N., *Historical Materialism*

\*\* Cohen, G.A., *Marx's Theory of History: A Defense*

Cole, G.D.H., *The Meaning of Marxism*

\* Dobb, M., ed., *The Transformation from Feudalism to Capitalism*

Eagleton, T., *Ideology*

\* Farraro, J., *Freedom and Determinism in History According to Marx and Engels*

Fleischer, H., *Marxism and History*

Gandy, D.R., *Marx and History*

Giddens, A., *A Contemporary Critique of Historical Materialism*

\* Jakubowski, R., *Ideological Superstructures in the Materialist Conception of History*

Korsch, K., *Karl Marx*

Labriola, A., *Essays on the Materialist Conception of History*

\*\* Lefebvre, H., *Historical Materialism*

MacPherson, C.B., *The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism*

McLellan, D., *Ideology*

McMurty, J., *The Structure of Marx's World View*

Mehring, F., *On Historical Materialism*

Meszaros, I., *The Power of Ideology*

\*\* Ollman, B., "Marx's Use of 'Class'", *Social and Sexual Revolution: Essays on Marx and Reich*

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation*, Chapters 29-32

\*\* Ollman, B., *Dialectical Investigations*, Chapters 6-8

Plekhanov, H., *The Role of The Individual in History*

\*\* Rader, M., *Marx's Materialist Interpretation of History*

Schmidt, A., *History and Structure*

Torrance, J., *Ideology*

\* Wood, E., *Democracy Against Capitalism: Renewing Historical Materialism*

## **7. "Projecting the Socialist and Communist Future: But Is True? And Is It Good?"**

\*\* Marx, K., "Critique of the Gotha Program", IV

\* I, Part 2, Chapter 8

\* Marx, K., Engels, F., and Lenin, V.L., *On Communist Society*

\* Bottomore, T.B., and Rubel, M., eds., *Karl Marx: Selected Writings in Sociology and Social Philosophy*, Part 5

Afanasyev, V., *Socialism and Communism*

Bebel, A., *Society of the Future*

Block, E., *The Principle of Hope*

\* Draper, H., *Karl Marx's Theory of Revolution: The Dictatorship of the Proletariat*, vol. III

Duncan, G., *Marx and Mill*, Chapter 5

\* Ehrenberg, J., *The Dictatorship of the Proletariat: Marx's Theory of Socialist Democracy*

\* Lenin, V.V., *State and Revolution*

\* Mandel, E., *Marxist Economic Theory*, Chapters 15-18

\* Meszaros, I., *Beyond Capital: Towards a Theory of Transition*

Moore, S., *Marx on the Choice Between Socialism and Communism*

Nove, A., *The Economics of Feasible Socialism*

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation*, Chapters 7-17 and 33

\*\* Ollman, B., "Marx's Vision of Communism", *Social and Sexual Revolution*

\*\* Ollman, B., ed. and co-author, *Market Socialism: The Debate Among Socialists*

\*\* Ollman, B., "Why Dialectics? Why Now? Or How to Study the Communist Future Inside the Capitalist Present", *Science & Society* (Fall 1998)

Stephen, J.D., *The Transition from Capitalism to Socialism*

Tucker, R., *The Marxian Revolutionary Idea*

\* Van den Berg, A., *The Immanent Utopia: From Marxism on the State to the State of Marxism*

## **8. "Revolution: Who? How? When? And With What?"**

\* I, Part 2, Chapters 5 and 7

\* Padover, S., ed., *Karl Marx on Revolution*, Part I

Avineri, S., *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*, Chapter 5

Blackburn, R., "The Theory of Proletarian Revolution", *New Left Review* (? , 1997)

Colletti, L., "Marx and Engels and the Concept of Party," *The Socialist Register*, 1967

Eyerman, R., *False Consciousness and Ideology in Marx's Theory*

Fromm, E., *Escape from Freedom*

Johnstone, M., "Marx and Engels and the Concept of Party", *The Socialist Register*, 1967

\* Lenin, V.L., *What Is To Be Done?*

\* Lukacs, G., *History and Class Consciousness*, Chapter 3

\*\* Luxemburg, R., *Reform or Revolution*

\* Marcuse, H., "Marx's Concept of Revolution", *New Left Review* (July 1969)

Molyneux, J. *Marx and the Party*

\*\* Ollman, B., *Alienation*, Chapters 17, 29, and 33

\*\* Ollman, B., *Social and Sexual Revolution*, Chapters 1, 6 and 7

\*\* Ollman, B., *Dialectical Investigations*, Chapter 9

Reich, W., "What is 'Class Consciousness'?" *Sex-Pol*, ed. by L. Baxendall

Reich, W., *Mass Psychology of Fascism*

Rosen, M., *On Voluntary Servitude*

\* Sherover, Marcuse, E., *Emancipation and Consciousness*

Wolpe, H., "The Problem of the Development of Revolutionary Consciousness", *Telos* (Fall, 1969)