



MARTHA BRADLEY EVANS
Center for Teaching Excellence

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

[Marxian Economics – Econ 5080/6080]

Spring Semester 2023

Monday/Wednesday 11:50AM-01:10PM; [CTIHB 101](#)

Instructor: Swayamsiddha Sarangi

Email: swayamsiddha.sarangi@utah.edu

Required Materials

- 1) Understanding Capital, Duncan Foley
- 2) Utopistics: Or Historical Choices of the Twenty-First Century, Immanuel Wallerstein
- 3) Das Kapital, Volume 1,2,3, Karl Marx

All required course materials will be shared via Canvas.

Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to Marxist approach to understanding capitalism as a distinct mode of production. The first half of the course is a reading of the labor theory of value, capitalist accumulation and crisis under capitalism. The second half of the course relates to various approaches, extensions and applications in the broader sphere of Marxist methods, especially topics on ecology, financial crises and feminist economics. There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- understand theories of value and accumulation of capital in Marxist framework.
- Contrast Marx's framework with other approaches
- discuss the question of sustainability of ecosystem under capitalism
- provide a framework for looking at the gendered division of labor as either distinct or part of the class division of labor
- provide a way of assessing the impact of financialization and globalization in the current world

Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning is from discourse and not from monologues. Motivating students to engage in participative discussions where everybody's opinion is respected is crucial to understanding different points of view. This class will be in-person and students will be expected to complete the reading assignments in time for discussion. Reading materials and other assignments will be shared via Canvas.

Course Policies

In-class discussions are important and students are expected to attend these lectures. The class is also based on assignments and presentations and it is expected that students will ensure the completion of these before the due deadline. The instructor and teaching assistants will provide feedback on the assignments in a timely manner. The instructor will follow all official University of Utah policies regarding conduct in the classroom, incompletes, and accommodations. Accommodations will be considered on an individual basis and only with required documentation.

Assignments

There will be 3 assignments, a group presentation and a final exam. The final exam will be a paper on a topic of interest chosen by the student, that utilizes some of the concepts studied in the course. The quizzes will cover the reading materials in the course and will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The group presentations will be done in the second half of the course and will be on topics that are to be covered in class.

Assignments	Weightage (%)
Quizzes	30
Presentations	30
Final paper	30
In class discussions	10

Grades will be curved after the final grades have been calculated on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Readings	Topic	Assignments (Tentative due dates)
9th-11th Jan	The Logic of Capital, D Basu (Chapter 2 only) The Structure and Content of Kapital , Basu(till section 3)	Introduction to Marxist approach	
16th Jan	Structure and Content of Kapital, D Basu (section 3-5) On reading Marx, Ch 1, Understanding Capital, Foley	Introduction to Marxist approach	
23rd-25th Jan	The Commodity, Ch 2, Understanding Capital, Foley Section 4: The Fetishism of Commodities and the Secret Thereof, Ch 1 , Vol I, Das Kapital Chapter 2: Exchange, Vol 1, Das Kapital Section 2: The Medium of Circulation, Chapter 3, Vol 1, Das Kapital (pages 71-75)	Labor theory of Value-I	Quiz 1 due 25th January
30th Jan- 1st Feb	Chapter 3, Understanding Capital, Foley The Labor Theory of Value and Its Critics, Hans Ehrbar and Mark Glick	Labor theory of Value-II	
6th – 8th Feb	Production under Capitalism Chapter 4 Understanding Capital, Foley Accumulation under Capital, Chapter 5 (till page 68 and Conclusion, Understanding Capital, Foley	Accumulation of Capital-I	
13th-15th Feb	Chapter 21: III. Schematic Presentation of Accumulation(Page 305-320), Vol II, Das Kapital The Equalization of the Rate of Profit, Ch 6, Understanding Capital, Foley	Accumulation of Capital-II	Quiz 2 due 15th February
22nd February	The Division of Surplus Value, Ch 7, Understanding Capital Chapter 2. The Rate of Profit , Chapter 3. The Relation of the Rate of Profit to the Rate of Surplus-Value (pages 28-33), Vol III, Das Kapital	Accumulation of Capital-III	
27th February -1st March	Chapter 8 (till page 136), Falling rate of profits, Understanding Capital, Duncan Foley Chapter 9, The theory of capitalist crisis, Understanding Capital, Duncan Foley	Crises under Capitalism	Choose presentation/discussion topics Quiz 3 due 1st March
5th – 12th March			

Spring Break			
13th-15th March	<p>Utopistics Chapter 2 The Difficult Transition, or Hell on Earth</p> <p>Foster, J. B., Clark, B. and Holleman, H. (2019). "Capitalism and Robbery: The Expropriation of Land, Labour and Corporeal Life", Monthly Review 71(7)</p>	Capitalism and Ecology	Presentation group 1
20th-22nd March	<p>Utopistics Chapter 3 A Substantively Rational World, or Can Paradise Be Regained</p> <p>The 21st Century Crisis: Climate Catastrophe or Socialism, Minqi Li</p>	Capitalism and Ecology II	Presentation group 2
27th-29th March	<p>https://socialistworker.org/2013/09/10/what-is-social-reproduction-theory</p> <p>Social Reproduction Theory, T Bhattacharya (Introduction and Chapter 2 crisis of care, N Fraser)</p> <p>Das Kapital, Volume 1 Chapter 15, Section A Appropriation of Supplementary Labour-Power by Capital. The Employment of Women and Children</p>	Feminist perspectives on capitalist mode of production-I	Presentation group 3
3rd-5th April	<p>Hartmann, Heidi I. 1979. "The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism: Towards a More Progressive Union." Capital & Class 3(2): 1-33</p> <p>Women's Liberation and the Agrarian Question: Insights from Peasant Movements in India, A Prasad</p>	Feminist perspectives on capitalist mode of production-II	Presentation group 4
10th-12th April	<p>https://www.cadtm.org/Learning-from-Hilferding-s-Finance-Capital-Money-banking-and-crisis-tendencies</p>	Financial capitalism	Presentation group 5

	The Falling Rate of Profit as the Cause of Long Waves: Theory and Empirical Evidence, A Shaikh		
17th-19th April	https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/11/precariat-global-class-rise-of-populism/ https://aeon.co/essays/if-you-want-decolonisation-go-to-the-economics-of-samir-amin	Special topics	Presentation group 6
Final essay due on May 3rd			

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.

University Policies

1. ***The Americans with Disabilities Act.*** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.
 - o ***If in-class attendance is a necessary component of the course for pedagogical reasons (e.g., laboratories, studios, or artistic training), state it explicitly.***

Use this standard language: “Given the nature of this course, attendance is required and adjustments cannot be granted to allow non-attendance. However, if you need to seek an ADA accommodation to request an exception to this attendance policy due to a disability, please contact the Center for Disability and Access (CDA). CDA will work with us to determine what, if any, ADA accommodations are reasonable and appropriate

2. **University Safety Statement.** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.
3. **Addressing Sexual Misconduct.** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which Includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

4. **COVID-19 Resources.**

The University of Utah has implemented reasonable health and safety protocols, taking into account recommendations by local, state and national public health authorities, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 protocol, please refer to <https://coronavirus.utah.edu/>.

Other resources are

1. [Student Guidance: What Steps to Take for a Possible or Confirmed COVID-19 Exposure](#)
2. [Registrar's Office COVID-19 Information and FAQ's](#)
3. [Housing & Residential Education](#)

5. **Diversity Statement.** I stand in support of compassion, dignity, value-of-life, equity, inclusion and justice for all individuals regardless of color, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, language, socioeconomic status, ability, gender, gender identity or expression, immigration status, or any type of marginalization. I stand in support of making our society more inclusive, just, and equitable for all individuals. I stand against individual and systemic racism in all its various forms.
6. **Undocumented Student Support Statement.** Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members,

friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

7. ***Drop/Withdrawal Policies.*** Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A “W” grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade “W” is not used in calculating the student’s GPA. For deadlines to withdraw from full-term, first, and second session classes, see the U’s Academic Calendar.
8. Other important information to consider including:
 - a. Student Code: <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>
 - b. Accommodation Policy (see Section Q):
<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>
9. **Student Mental Health Resources**
 - *Rates of burnout, anxiety, depression, isolation, and loneliness have noticeably increased during the pandemic. If you need help, reach out for [campus mental health resources](#), including free counseling, trainings and other support.*
 - *Consider participating in a [Mental Health First Aid](#) or other [wellness-themed](#) training provided by our Center for Student Wellness and sharing these opportunities with your peers, teaching assistants and department colleagues*
10. ***Diverse Supports for Students.*** Your success at the University of Utah is important to all of us here! If you feel like you need extra support in academics, overcoming personal difficulties, or finding community, the U is here for you.

Student Support Services (TRIO)

TRIO federal programs are targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services (SSS) is a TRIO program for current or incoming undergraduate university students who are seeking their first bachelor's degree and

need academic assistance and other services to be successful at the University of Utah.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Student Support Services (TRIO)

801-581-7188

trio.utah.edu

Room 2075

1901 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

American Indian Students

The AIRC works to increase American Indian student visibility and success on campus by advocating for and providing student centered programs and tools to enhance academic success, cultural events to promote personal well-being, and a supportive “home-away-from-home” space for students to grow and develop leadership skills.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

American Indian Resource Center

801-581-7019

diversity.utah.edu/centers/airc

Fort Douglas Building 622

1925 De Trobriand St.

Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Black Students

Using a pan-African lens, the Black Cultural Center seeks to counteract persistent campus-wide and global anti-blackness. The Black Cultural Center works to holistically enrich, educate, and advocate for students, faculty, and staff through Black centered programming, culturally affirming educational initiatives, and retention strategies.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Black Cultural Center

801-213-1441

diversity.utah.edu/centers/bcc

Fort Douglas Building 603

95 Fort Douglas Blvd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Students with Children

Our mission is to support and coordinate information, program development and services that enhance family resources as well as the availability, affordability and quality of child care for University students, faculty and staff.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Childcare & Family Resources

801-585-5897

childcare.utah.edu

408 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Students with Disabilities

The Center for Disability & Access is dedicated to serving students with disabilities by providing the opportunity for success and equal access at the University of Utah. They also strive to create an inclusive, safe, and respectful environment.

For more information about what support they provide and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Disability & Access

801-581-5020

disability.utah.edu

162 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Students across Intersectional Identities and Experiences

The Center for Equity & Student Belonging (CESB) creates community and advocates for academic success and belonging for students across inter-sectional identities and experiences among our African, African American, Black, Native, Indigenous, American Indian, Asian, Asian American, Latinx, Chicanx, Pacific Islander, Multiracial, LGBTQ+, Neurodiverse and Disabled students of color.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Equity and Student Belonging (CESB)

801-581-8151

diversity.utah.edu/centers/CESB/

235 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

English as a Second/Additional Language (ESL) Students

If you are an English language learner, there are several resources on campus available to help you develop your English writing and language skills. Feel free to contact:

Writing Center

801-587-9122

writingcenter.utah.edu

2701 Marriott Library

295 S 1500 E

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

English Language Institute

801-581-4600

continue.utah.edu/eli

540 Arapeen Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Undocumented Students

Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles that prevent you from engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center.

Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families.

For more information about what support they provide and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Dream Center

801-213-3697

dream.utah.edu

1120 Annex (Wing B)
1901 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

LGBTQ+ Students

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center acts in accountability with the campus community by identifying the needs of people with a queer range of [a]gender and [a]sexual experiences and responding with university-wide services.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

LGBTQ+ Resource Center

801-587-7973

lgbt.utah.edu ([Links to an external site.](#))

409 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Veterans & Military Students

The mission of the Veterans Support Center is to improve and enhance the individual and academic success of veterans, service members, and their family members who attend the university; to help them receive the benefits they earned; and to serve as a liaison between the student veteran community and the university.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Veterans Support Center

801-587-7722

veteranscenter.utah.edu ([Links to an external site.](#))

418 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Women

The Women's Resource Center (WRC) at the University of Utah serves as the central resource for educational and support services for women. Honoring the complexities of women's identities, the WRC facilitates choices and changes through programs, counseling, and training grounded in a commitment to advance social justice and equality.

For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Women's Resource Center

801-581-8030

womenscenter.utah.edu

411 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Inclusivity at the U

The Office for Inclusive Excellence is here to engage, support, and advance an environment fostering the values of respect, diversity, equity, inclusivity, and academic excellence for students in our increasingly global campus community. They also handle reports of bias in the classroom as outlined below:

Bias or hate incidents consist of speech, conduct, or some other form of expression or action that is motivated wholly or in part by prejudice or bias whose impact discriminates, demeans, embarrasses, assigns stereotypes, harasses, or excludes individuals because of their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, language, sex, size, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or religion.

For more information about what support they provide and links to other resources, or to report a bias incident, view their website or contact:

Office for Inclusive Excellence

801-581-4600

inclusive-excellence.utah.edu (Links to an external site.)

170 Annex (Wing D)
1901 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Other Student Groups at the U

To learn more about some of the other resource groups available at the U, check out:

getinvolved.utah.edu/ studentsuccess.utah.edu/resources/student-support