

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS**

**V53.0140 Prof. B. Ollman**

**SOCIALIST THEORY**

SYLLABUS -

The course is divided into five sections, each of them devoted to a particular school of socialist theory -

1. Christian Socialism;
2. Utopian Socialism;
3. Marxism (which get about half of our time);
4. Anarchism;
5. Social Democracy and Fabianism (which are treated together).

See the Bibliography below, especially the works with two stars, for the range of texts we draw on for this course. There is no single book "Required" for this course. Instead, all these books are "Recommended" (or they wouldn't be there), or "Highly Recommended" (one star), or "Very Highly Recommended" (two stars - and most of these have been ordered at the University Book Store).

At the end of term, students will be expected to hand in a journal of 30 - 50 pages of their reactions (doubts, developments, criticisms, summaries in their own words, etc.) to some of the most important ideas in these five schools of socialist thought taken from the lectures and from a sampling of these books. Students can give more attention to any couple of these schools, but every school should get at least a few pages of remarks. The journal is the basis for a student's grade in the course. There are no exams.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books with *one star* are highly *recommended*. Books with *two stars* are *required* reading and students are requested to buy them.

**I. *Christian Socialism***

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7. Nitti, F.S., CATHOLIC SOCIALISM
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## **II. *Utopian Socialism***

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4. Fourier, Charles THE UTOPIAN VISION
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14. Mumford, Lewis, THE STORY OF UTOPIAS
15. Nordhoff, Charles, THE COMMUNIST SOCIETIES OF THE UNITED STATES
16. Owen, Robert, NEW MORAL WORLD
17. Owen, Robert, REVOLUTION IN THE MIND AND PRACTICE OF THE HUMAN RACE
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23. Skinner, F.S., WALDEN II

24. Wells, H.G., A MODERN UTOPIA
- \* 25. Manuel, F., THE PROPHETS OF PARIS
- \* 26. Lukes, S. and Arblaster, A., THE GOOD SOCIETY
- \* 27. Fourier, Charles, DESIGN FOR UTOPIA
- \* 28. Beecher, J. & Bienvenu R. eds. THE UTOPIAN VISION OF CHARLES FOURIER
- \* 29. Geoghegan, V., UTOPIANISM AND MARXISM
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### III. **Theories of Marx and Engels**

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  - \* 2. Marx, Karl, "Wages, Price and Profit"
  - \*\* 3. Marx, Karl "Communist Manifesto."
  - \*\* 4. Marx, Karl GERMAN IDEOLOGY, Parts I and III
  - \* 5. Marx, Karl "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte"
  6. Marx, Karl "The Civil War in France"
  7. Marx, Karl, ECONOMIC AND PHILOSOPHIC MANUSCRIPTS OF 1844
  - \* 8. Engels, Frederich, "Socialism: Utopian and Scientific"
  9. Engels, Frederich, "The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State"
- \*\* (Many of these writings and selections from CAPITAL appear in the Marx-Engels Reader, ed. by Robert Tucker).

### IV. **Post Marx Marxism**

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2. Caudwell, Christopher, THE CONCEPT OF FREEDOM
3. Dunayavskaya, Raya, MARXISM AND FREEDOM
- \* 4. Freeman, H., TOWARD SOCIALISM IN AMERICA
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  - \* 30. Mandel, E., THE PLACE OF MARXISM IN HISTORY
  - \*\* 31. Parenti, M., DEMOCRACY FOR A FEW
  - \* 32. MONTHLY REVIEW (SUMMER 2005),
- GENERAL: 1. Hook, Sidney, MARX AND THE MARXISTS

2. Mills, C.W. THE MARXISTS
3. Institute for Labor Education, WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE U.S. ECONOMY?

V. ***Social Democracy and Fabianism***

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2. Blatchford, R., MARRIE ENGLAND
3. Carpenter, Niles, GUILD SOCIALISM
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9. George, Henry, PROGRESS AND POVERTY
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- \* 17. Shaw, G.B., (ed.), FABIAN ESSAYS IN SOCIALISM
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## VI. **Anarchism**

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3. Cole, G.D.H., SOCIALIST THOUGHT I-V

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11. Landauer, Carl, EUROPEAN SOCIALISM (2 vols.)

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\* 13. Lichtheim, G., THE ORIGINS OF SOCIALISM

14. Rae, John, CONTEMPORARY SOCIALISM

15. Russell, Bertrand, ROADS TO FREEDOM: SOCIALISM, ANARCHISM, AND SYNDICALISM

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8. Laroy-Beaulieu, L., COLLECTIVISM
9. Mallock, W., A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF SOCIALISM
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- \* 12. Popper, Karl, THE OPEN SOCIETY

For a wide range of materials on many of the topics touched on above, see:  
[www.dialecticalmarxism.com](http://www.dialecticalmarxism.com) - **The Web Site of Bertell Ollman.**

**Photocopies of a variety of articles will also be provided during the course**