

CRITICAL GEOGRAPHIES

GGR363 | Winter 2015 | T 10:10-13:00 | RW143

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a **DESCRIPTION:**

This course offers a critical introduction to a range of radical political ideas. It is organized around five main topics (T1-T5): anarchism, Marxism, feminism, sexuality and imperialism/colonialism.

b **READINGS:**

The selection of readings for this course includes several classic and contemporary texts dealing with its five main topics. They will be freely available from the Internet, the University of Toronto Library ('e-journals') or the course website. Several films shown in class will complement these texts. In addition to the required readings listed here, students are strongly encouraged to consult a few of the freely available introductions to the course topics, such as the Communist Manifesto by Marx and Engels. Some of the course readings may have to be replaced by others if necessitated by copyright law.

c **TESTS + GRADING:**

- > 5 short quizzes (**Q1-Q5**): 40% (5 x 8%)
- > 5 short essays (**E1-E5**): 60% (5 x 12%)

Detailed instructions on short quizzes (approximately 10-15 minutes) and essays (250-500 words) will be given in class. For essays submitted late, a 5% reduction of the grade per working day applies. Late essays may be graded later than those done on time. 'Make-up quizzes' will be offered only to those who miss scheduled quizzes with prior permission or with documented and legitimate reasons (doctor's notes, etc.).

d **SCHEDULE + READINGS:**

[0] Introduction (Jan 6)
Course topics, requirements, objectives, etc.

T 1 Anarchism (Jan 13, Jan 20)

- > Emma Goldman, Anarchism: What It Really Stands For, 1910:
www.marxists.org
- > Stephen Jay Gould, 'Kropotkin Was No Crackpot', Natural History 106,
1997, 12-21: www.marxists.org
- > David Graeber, 'The New Anarchists', New Left Review 13, 2002, 61-73.
- > Subcomandante Marcos [interview with Gabriel García Márquez and Roberto Pombo], 'The Punch Card and the Hourglass', New Left Review 9, 2001,
69-79.

Q1 + E1 (Jan 20)

- T 2 Marxism (Jan 27, Feb 3)
- > Marshall Berman, 'Unchained Melody', The Nation, 11.05.1998, 11-15.
 - > Alain Badiou, 'The Communist Hypothesis', New Left Review 49, 2008, 29-42.
 - > Fredric Jameson, 'Five Theses on Actually Existing Marxism', Monthly Review, April 1996, 1-10.
 - > Fredric Jameson, Theories of Ideology, unpublished manuscript (n.d.).
- Q2 + E2 (Feb 3)**
- T 3 Feminism (Feb 10, Feb 24)
- > Alexandra Kollontai, 'Communism and the Family' [1920] in Selected Writings of Alexandra Kollontai (London: Allison & Busby, 1977): www.marxists.org
 - > Dolores Hayden, 'What Would a Non-Sexist City Look Like?', Signs 5.3, 1980, S170-S187.
 - > Nicole Cox and Silvia Frederici, Counter-Planning From the Kitchen (Bristol: Falling Wall Press, 1975).
 - > Selma James, 'Marx and Feminism' (1983) in Sex, Race and Class (Oakland, CA: PM Press, 2012), 143-160.
- Q3 + E3 (Feb 24)**
- T 4 Sexual Politics (March 3, March 10)
- > Adrienne Rich, 'Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence', Signs 5.4, 1980, 631-660.
 - > Judith Butler, 'Gender as Performance' [Interview with Peter Osborne and Lynne Segal], Radical Philosophy 67, 1994, 32-39.
 - > Herbert Marcuse, 'Political Preface [1966]' to Eros and Civilization (Boston: Beacon Press, 1955): www.marxists.org
 - > James Roy MacBean, 'Sex and Politics: Wilhelm Reich, World Revolution and Makavejev's WR', Film Quarterly 25.3, 1972, 2-13.
- Q4 + E4 (March 10)**
- T 5 Imperialism/Colonialism (March 17, March 24)
- > Aimé Césaire, Discourse on Colonialism (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1972/2000 [1955]).
 - > Jean-Paul Sartre, 'Preface' to Frantz Fanon's The Wretched of the Earth (1961): www.marxists.org
 - > C. L. R. James, 'The Haitian Revolution in the Making of the Modern World' in You Don't Play with Revolution, ed. David Austin (Oakland, CA: AK Press, 2009), 51-70.
 - > David Harvey, 'The "New" Imperialism', Socialist Register, 2004, 63-87.
- Q5 + E5 (March 24)**
- [X] Conclusion (March 31)
- > Reading(s) or movie clip(s) to be chosen by the students . . .

e **ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS:**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

f **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Plagiarism is an academic offense at the University of Toronto. Plagiarism is quoting (or paraphrasing) the work of an author (including the work of fellow students) without proper use of citation. Quotation marks are required when using an author's words. Students also should not be submitting any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought, without first discussing with the instructor. Please consult the "Rules and Regulations" section of the Arts and Science Calendar www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Rules_&_Regulations.html for further information and check the 'How not to plagiarize' website: www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize

g **WRITING:**

A wide range of resources concerning writing is available at the University of Toronto. See the website of 'Writing at the University of Toronto', especially if comments on your essays (E1-E5) suggest that you can improve your writing: www.writing.utoronto.ca

In addition, information about the English Language Learning (ELL) program at the University of Toronto can be found at: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/edvising/ell>

The English Language Learning (ELL) program is designed to help multilingual students achieve the high level of English required for top academic work at U of T. Their courses and activities are free and non-credit. All sessions are taught by highly qualified university instructors. Native speakers of English are also welcome.

Starting on September 12, the ELL Program will offer free, online academic writing instruction through our Reading eWriting activity. To register, students should contact the ELL Coordinator at ell.newcollege@utoronto.ca

Starting on September 8, ELL will also offer free, on-site Communication Cafes which focus on the language needed for academic discussions and presentations. No registration is necessary. For the schedule and topics, visit www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/communication-cafe

Participating in ELL is a great way to help ensure a successful academic year. It's also a wonderful opportunity to meet other students who want to establish relationships in English. They offer small, friendly groups and professional advice about language improvement.

[See also the detailed instructions on essay assignments (E1-E5) for writing advice and requirements specific to this course.]