

SYLLABUS

PHIL-4740-M01

Philosophy of Karl Marx

Fall 2016

M,W: 16:00-17:15

Padre Rubio Hall, Room 6

3 Credits

Prerequisites: PHIL-1050;

PHIL-2050

Renzo Llorente, Ph.D.

San Ignacio Hall, Rm. 311

Office Hours:

M, W: 10:15-10:45; 12:00-12:50; 14:30-15:30.

F:10:15-10:45;12:00-12:50;
& by appointment.

Tel.: ext. 231

e-mail: rllorent@slu.edu

Description:

This course offers an in-depth study of Marx as a philosopher and social theorist.

Objectives:

This course will introduce students to the social, political, and philosophical thought of Karl Marx, and will thereby acquaint them with some of the central topics, themes and problems of the Marxist theoretical tradition.

After successfully completing PHIL 474, a student will i) understand and ii) be able to explain (for the purposes of exposition or analysis):

- the fundamental theses and concepts of historical materialism;
- Marx's conception of alienation;
- the Marxist view of religion;
- the Marxist conception of the state;
- Marx's condemnation of the division of labor; and
- Marx's notion of communism and human liberation.

Required texts:

Robert C. Tucker (ed.), *The Marx-Engels Reader*, 2nd edition (New York and London: W.W. Norton and Co., 1978), available at the campus bookstore. Students may also be expected to read additional short texts distributed as photocopies in class. Aside from these texts, some supplementary on-line resources may also be suggested during the course of the semester. In addition, students may find it useful to consult two general interest philosophy journals available in the University library: *Philosophy Now* and *The Philosophers' Magazine*.

Course requirements:

Besides the regular reading assignments, the course requirements are as follows: two exams (a midterm and final); one short paper (approximately 7-8 pages); occasional in-class exercises (e.g., quizzes); and regular attendance.

Grading:

>The final course grade will be based on four partial scores: two exam grades, a grade for the paper, and a grade for in-class work. These four grades will be weighed as follows:

Mid-term exam = 25%
Paper = 30%
Final exam = 30%
In-class work = 15 %

Please bear in mind that *poor attendance will adversely affect a student's grade for attendance and participation*. In addition, only **two** unexcused absences are permitted; for each additional unexcused absence the final course grade may be lowered by one-third.

>The grading scale is as follows: 93 and above = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

73-76 = C

70-72 = C-

60-69 = D

0 -59 = F

Tentative Course Outline / Schedule

Reading assignments should be completed by the date listed. For example, "On the Jewish Question" should be read *before* our meeting on October 3.

Please bear in mind that this schedule is subject to modification.

SEPTEMBER

5 Introduction

I) Writings on the Materialist Conception of History & Early Philosophical Writings

7 Engels, "Speech at the Graveside of Karl Marx" (pp. 681-682); Marx, "Marx on the History of His Opinions" (pp. 3-6)

12 "Marx on the History of His Opinions" (pp. 3-6); Marx, "Society and Economy in History" (pp. 136-142)

14 Marx, "Theses on Feuerbach" (pp. 143-145); Marx and Engels, *The German Ideology*: Part I (pp. 147-157)

Last day to drop a class without a grade of W and/or add a class. Last day to choose audit (AU) or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) options

19 *The German Ideology*: Part I (pp. 158-168)

21 *Class Dismissed* (film)

26 *The German Ideology*: Part I (pp. 169-188)

28 *The German Ideology*: Part I (pp. 189-200)

OCTOBER

3 Marx, "On the Jewish Question" (pp. 26-36)

5 "On the Jewish Question" (pp. 37-52)

10 Marx, *Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*: Introduction (pp. 53-59)

12 **Holiday** (University closed)

17 **MIDTERM EXAM**

19 *Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*: Introduction (pp. 60-65)

24 Engels, *Socialism: Utopian and Scientific* (pp. 700-717)

26 *Socialism: Utopian and Scientific* (pp. 700-717)

28 Last day to drop a class and receive a grade of W

31 Engels, "Letters on Historical Materialism" (pp. 760-768); Engels, "On Morality" (pp. 725-727)

NOVEMBER

II) The Critique of Capitalism

2 Marx, "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844" (pp. 70-81)

3 Registration for Spring 2017 semester begins

7 "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844" (pp. 93-97; pp.101-105)

9 **Holiday** (University closed)

14 Marx, "Alienation and Social Classes" (pp. 133-135); Engels, "On the Division of Labour in Production" (pp. 718-724); Marx, "Wage Labour and Capital" (pp. 203-217)

16 "Wage Labour and Capital" (pp. 203-217); Marx, "The Coming Upheaval" (pp. 218-219); "Class Struggle and Mode of Production" (p. 220)

III) Marx's Political Thought

21 Marx and Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (pp. 473-483)

23 *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (pp. 483-491) **>PAPER DUE**

28 *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (pp. 483-491)

30 *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (pp. 491-500)

DECEMBER

5 Marx, "Economics and Politics in the Labor Movement" (p. 520); Marx, "Speech at the Anniversary of the *People's Paper*" (pp. 577-578); Marx, "Address of the Central Committee to the Communist League" (pp. 501-511)

7 Marx, "Circular Letter to Bebel, Liebknecht, Bracke, and Others" (pp. 549-555)

12 Marx, "Critique of the Gotha Program" (pp. 525-541)

14 Marx, "Critique of the Gotha Program" (pp. 525-541)

16: **FINAL EXAM—15:30**

Additional Information

**The use of cell (mobile) phones will not be permitted during class.

**Papers are due at the *beginning* of class on November 23; any paper received after this time will be considered late. The grade for a paper submitted after the deadline may be lowered by 1/3 for each day late. (Papers submitted on November 23 but after the beginning of class may be considered one day late.)

**Academic Accommodations and Learning Resources:

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to

support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/learning-resources>.

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations **must** contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also **must** notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services at disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu or +915 54 58 58, ext. 230 for an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. For more information about academic accommodations, see "Student Resources" on the SLU-Madrid webpage. Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

***Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors.* The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at:

http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%2006-26-15.pdf. Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online:

<http://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics>. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

Any work (assignment, exercise, exam, etc.) involving a violation of this policy will receive an F. All violations of academic integrity will be reported to the chair. In consultation with the professor, the chair will write a report, which will then be sent to the Madrid Campus Committee on Academic Honesty.

The professor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus

****Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 (mmaruri@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.**

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall (counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 230) or Sinews Multipletherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid (www.sinews.es; 917-00-1979). To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address:<http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

****In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to accreditation requirements, SLU-Madrid regularly assesses its teaching, services and programs for evidence of student learning. For this purpose, SLU-Madrid keeps representative examples of student work from all courses and programs on file, including assignments, papers, exams, portfolios and results from student surveys, focus groups and reflective exercises. Copies of your work for this course may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. If you prefer SLU-Madrid not to retain your work for this purpose, you must communicate this decision in writing to your professor.**