Instructor: Dylan Riley
Venue: Barrows 170
Time and Day: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30–5:00
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This course introduces several important "isms", that is to say arguments about the nature of society, the state, and social transformation. Some of the "isms" we will study are: Anarchism, Conservatism, Fascism, Liberalism, Marxism and its varieties, Neoliberalism, Feminism, and post-colonial Nationalism. The course seeks to develop political literacy defined as an understanding of the fundamental assumptions and arguments from which competing political perspectives derive.

Our class time will be divided into two parts. A discussion component in which the instructor will randomly call on students to answer questions concerning the reading from that week, and a lecture component in which the instructor will provide an overview of the material. Somewhat unusually, the discussion component will precede the lecture component for each class. Assessment is based on a series of in class exams and participation in the discussion component.

Assessment:

Class participation: 10%
Exams: 3*20%=60%
Final: 30%

Course Materials:

January 16th
The French Revolution

January 18th
Conservatism

January 23rd
Liberalism (1)
January 30th
_Utopian Socialism_

February 1st
_Marx_

February 6th
_In Class Exam_

February 8th
_Engels_

February 13th
_Anarchism_

February 20th
_Anarchism_

February 22nd
_Orthodox Marxism_

February 27th
_Orthodox Marxism_

March 1st
_Revisionism_

March 6th
_Revisionism_
March 8th
In Class Exam

March 13th
Syndicalism

March 15th
Syndicalism

March 20th
Bolshevism

March 22nd
Bolshevism
LA. Pp. 311–98.

April 3rd
In Class Exam

April 5th
Conservative Revolution

April 9th
Fascism and Nazism

April 12th
Liberalism (2) and Neo-Liberalism
April 17th

April 19th
Feminism

April 24th

April 26th

May 1st
Anti-Colonial Nationalism
Fanon, Franz. TBA

May 3rd
Fanon, Franz. TBA