

**Marxian Economics**  
**Economics 5080/6080**  
**Fall 2017**

Professor: Mark Glick  
Contact: [glick@econ.sbs.utah.edu](mailto:glick@econ.sbs.utah.edu) – cell 801-201-3015  
Office Hours: Before class or by appointment  
Class Time: Monday/Wednesday – 4:10 pm – 5:30 pm  
Room: William Stewart Building – Room 210

**Course Overview:**

In this course we will cover the basic concepts and some of the debates in philosophy, sociology, political science, and economics pertaining to the writings of Karl Marx. However, most of the course will concern a critical analysis of Marxist and classical economics. Where necessary, we will try to provide the necessary context in historical events and the history of economic thought to make Marx's works intelligible. We will also try to contrast the difference between Marx's treatment of certain economic issues and the modern mainstream economic approach.

**Course Objectives:**

- A critical understanding of Marx's writings.
- Learn to think deeply about competing analytical traditions in economists.

**Grading Policy:**

For both 5080 and 6380 students there will be four take home exams (one after each module) each worth 25% of your grade. There are no make ups but I will drop the lowest grade. The top three exams for all students will then be graded on a curve at the end of the semester.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**

We will follow a traditional lecture and reading format.

**Required Text:**

1. David McLellan, *Karl Marx Selected Writings*, Oxford (McLellan)
2. Posted Readings on Canvas

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Because this is the first time I am teaching this class there will have to be some flexibility with the schedule of topics and exam dates. If you come to class you will be fully informed of the schedule as we proceed.

### **Module 1 - Introduction to Marx and His Philosophy**

(Weeks 1-3) (Aug. 21, 23, 28, 30, Sept. 6)

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Introduction to Marx	
Marx and Philosophy	Marx: On the Jewish Question (McLellan) J.V. Stalin: Dialectical and Historical Materialism Colletti: Marxism and Hegel Althusser: Contradiction and Overdetermination Marx: Method of Political Economy Willer: Systematic Empiricism Frey: Happiness and Economics
Basic Concepts of Historical Materialism	Marx: Preface to a Critique of Political Economy (McLellan) Marx: The German Ideology (McLellan) Althusser: Ideological State Apparatuses

### **Module 2 – Marx’s Economic Theory**

(Weeks 4-8) (Sept. 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27, Oct. 2, 4, 16, 18)

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Labor Theory of Value	Marx: Commodities, Use Value and Exchange Value, the Fetishism of Commodities, Exchange and Money (McLellan) Foley: The Commodity: Labor, Value, Money
Money	

Surplus Value	Marx: The General Formula for Capital, the Sale of Labor Power, the Production of Surplus Value, Constant and Variable Capital, the Rate of Surplus Value (McLellan) Foley: The Theory of Capital and Surplus Value
Reserve Army of Labor/ Primitive Accumulation	Marx: The General Law of Capitalist Accumulation; Primitive Accumulation (McLellan)
Neoclassical Theories of Profit	Shaikh: Excerpts from “Capitalism”
Circuits of Capital	NONE
Competition	Duménil: The Economics of the Profit Rate Shaikh: Excerpts from “Capitalism”
The Transformation Problem	Marx: Capital Vol. III, Ch. 10 Duménil: Beyond the Transformation Riddle

### **Module 3 – Marx’s Sociology**

(Weeks 9, 10) (Oct. 23, 25, 30, Nov. 1)

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Classes	Marx: Classes (McLellan) Wright: A Framework of Class Analysis in the Marxist Tradition Selections from “The Crisis of Neoliberalism” (Duménil)
Marx’s Political Works	Marx: The 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte; and The Civil War in France (McLellan)

### **Module 4 – Marx on Capitalist Crisis: Recessions and Depressions**

(Weeks 11-14) (Nov. 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, Dec. 4, 6)

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Crisis Theories	Roberts: The Long Depression

The Falling Rate of Profit	Marx: Capital Vol. III, Ch. 13, 14, 15 Duménil: Excerpts from “The Economics of the Profit Rate” Shaikh: Excerpts from “Capitalism”
Neoliberalism	Selections from “The Crisis of Neoliberalism” (Duménil)

**Policies:**

The Economic Department’s policy toward unscholastic behavior is as follows: “Unscholastic behavior (e.g., excessive absences, plagiarism, disruptive behavior) may lead to expulsion from, and failure of the class.”

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement**

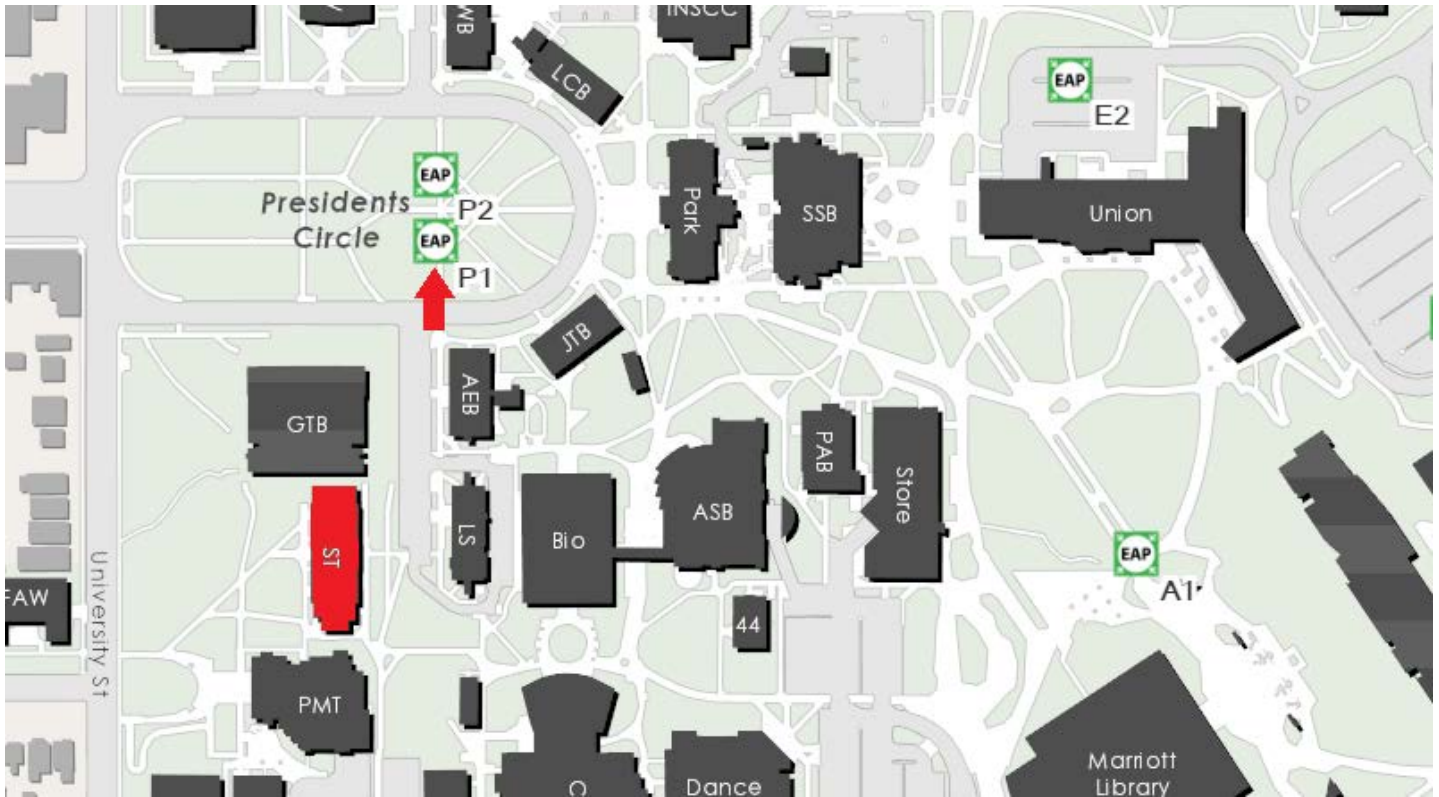
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

([www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/](http://www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/))

**Wellness Statement**

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness – [www.wellness.utah.edu](http://www.wellness.utah.edu); 801-581-7776.

# CSBS EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN



## BUILDING EVACUATION

EAP (Emergency Assembly Point) – When you receive a notification to evacuate the building either by campus text alert system or by building fire alarm, please follow your instructor in an orderly fashion to the EAP marked on the map below. Once everyone is at the EAP, you will receive further instructions from Emergency Management personnel. You can also look up the EAP for any building you may be in on campus at <http://emergencymanagement.utah.edu/eap>.



## CAMPUS RESOURCES

**U Heads Up App:** There's an app for that. Download the app on your smartphone at [alert.utah.edu/headsup](http://alert.utah.edu/headsup) to access the following resources:

- **Emergency Response Guide:** Provides instructions on how to handle any type of emergency, such as earthquake, utility failure, fire, active shooter, etc. Flip charts with this information are also available around campus.
- **See Something, Say Something:** Report unsafe or hazardous conditions on campus. If you see a life threatening or emergency situation, please call 911!

**Safety Escorts:** For students who are on campus at night or past business hours and would like an escort to your car, please call **801-585-2677**. You can call 24/7 and a security officer will be sent to walk with you or give you a ride to your desired on-campus location.