This inter-disciplinary seminar will compare capitalism and socialism, in both theory and practice, and explore their relationship to democracy. We will approach the subject from multiple perspectives: normative, analytical, and historical. Consequently, we will use tools from moral philosophy, economics, social choice theory, and comparative historical sociology. Historical materials will be drawn primarily from the last two centuries of European history.

Below is a list of required and suggested books for the class. With the important exceptions of the Gregory and Stuart and Przeworski books they should be available at The Coop. Like the other books, the Przeworski volume is available for purchase online in various formats. My preferred edition of the Gregory and Stuart book is the first edition – which I have placed on Reserve at Harvard’s Library. You may wish to purchase a used copy online, I suggest you get the oldest edition possible. Please let me know if experience difficulty in gaining access to any course materials.

**Required Books**


**Recommended book:**

- Schumpeter, Joseph *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy.*
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All students are expected to complete the assigned readings before each meeting of the class and be prepared to engage in a detailed discussion of the same. Before each class, students are required to contribute a question or set of questions that respond the weeks readings to an online forum to which only class members will belong.

Students can choose from a set of two assignments. Assignment set A is a set of three essays based on class readings. Three times during the semester, students will receive a prompt and have two weeks to write an eight to ten page essay. Assignment set B is a research paper that explores a topic of your choosing, subject to my approval. If you choose this route, you will be guided to the completion of your paper by answer a series of five questions in a series of papers with an average length of five to seven pages. These papers will requires you to clarify and justify your research question, develop and explanation that answers your question, as well as design and implement a study that evaluates your answer.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Schedule</th>
<th>Option A</th>
<th>Option B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>Prompt A</td>
<td>Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>One - Theory</td>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>Question 1</td>
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<td>Two - History</td>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Question 2</td>
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<td>Three - Evaluation</td>
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<td>Final Paper Due</td>
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You will also be evaluated on your contributions to weekly seminar discussions. You will be evaluated more favorably if your interventions in the discussion reveal that you have read carefully and thoughtfully, that you are genuinely curious about the subject matter at hand, and that you are a) respectful of other seminar participants, b) a good listener, and c) are eager to exchange ideas with the purpose of enhancing your own understanding of the subjects discussed as well as enhancing the learning of those around you (myself included).

COURSE POLICY ON COLLABORATION

All written work in this class is to be the independent work of individual students. By all means students are encouraged to read and comment on each others work, but submitted papers must be the wholly original work of the submitting students. When the comments and ideas of others are reflected in the text, they must be attributed to their source. Failure to follow this guideline would also constitute a violation of the Harvard College Honor Code.
Regardless of the assignment option you choose, you will be asked to affirm the Harvard College Honor Code in writing when submitting your final paper. The Harvard College Honor Code reads:

*Members of the Harvard College community commit themselves to producing academic work of integrity – that is, work that adheres to the scholarly and intellectual standards of accurate attribution of sources, appropriate collection and use of data, and transparent acknowledgement of the contribution of others to their ideas, discoveries, interpretations, and conclusions. Cheating on exams or problem sets, plagiarizing or misrepresenting the ideas or language of someone else as one’s own, falsifying data, or any other instance of academic dishonesty violates the standards of our community, as well as the standards of the wider world of learning and affairs.*

**DETERMINATION OF FINAL GRADES**

Determination of your final grade will depend on which assignment option you choose.

*Option A - Three Essays*

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<td>Essay 1</td>
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<td>Essay 2</td>
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<td>Essay 3</td>
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<td>Online participation</td>
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<td>Seminar Participation</td>
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*Option B - Research Paper*

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<td>Seminar Participation</td>
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Schedule of class meetings

1. September 9  INTRODUCTION

Gregory & Stuart, Chapter 1
Mueller, Chapter 1
Przeworski, Adam 1991 “Could We Feed Everyone?: The Irrationality of Capitalism and
“Roemer” Read Introductory section and “What Socialists Want”.

2. September 16  CAPITALISM IN THEORY

Gregory & Stuart, Chapters 2 & 3
Muller, Chapters 2 & 3

3. September 23  SOCIALISM IN THEORY

Gregory & Stuart Chapter 4
Newman, Chapter 1
Roemer, sections on “Public Ownership” and “A Market-Socialist Economy with a Stock
Market”

4. September 30  DEMOCRACY IN THEORY  - Prompt for Paper 1 distributed

Mueller, Chapter 6 & 7
Clark, Golder, and Golder Chapter 11

5. October 7  CAPITALISM IN HISTORY I  - The 19th century

Frieden Chapters 1-5

October 14  - University Holiday  - First Paper Due

6. October 21  CAPITALISM IN HISTORY II  The Interwar years

Frieden, Chapter 6 -9

7. October 28  CAPITALISM IN HISTORY III The Post war years

Frieden, Chapters 11, 12, & 15
Gregory & Stuart, Chapters 3 & 7

8. November 4  DEMOCRACY IN HISTORY
Mueller, Chapter 8
Przeworski, Chapters 3 and 4

9. November 11 DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM IN HISTORY

Przeworski, Chapters 1 & 2
Newman, Chapter 2 - first half
Roemer, section on “Socialism and Democracy”

10. November 18 PLANNED ECONOMIES IN HISTORY - Prompt for Paper 2 Distributed

Gregory & Stuart Chapter 6 & 8
Frieden, Chapter 14
Newman, Chapter 2 – second half

11. November 25 CAPITALISM vs. SOCIALISM

Mueller Chapter 4 & 5
Newman, Chapter 4
Roemer, sections on “Contrasting the welfare effects of the coupon economy and an egalitarian capitalist economy,” “The efficient of firms and the right of capital under market socialism” and “Conclusion.”

12. December 2 PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Mueller Chapter 9
Przeworski, Chapters 5 and 6