506:361, Socialism and Communism

Professor Markowitz

The course will deal in the first part with the principles and development of Marxist theory and the history of the movements for socialism in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the Europe and North America. In the second part, the course will deal with the globalization of the Socialist movement after the Russian Empire Socialist revolution and the division and competition between its socialist and Communist wings, concentrating on the role of the Soviets in world affairs, the effects of the socialist/communist movement on the existing colonial empires, the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany as an anti-socialist, anti-Communist backlash. In the last segment of the course we will study the effects of WWII, the Chinese, Vietnamese and Cuban Revolutions, the Social Democratic welfare states of Europe, and the global cold war on the movements and governments of the socialist and communist movements. Students will be required to write take home essay midterm and final examinations and do a ten to fifteen page term paper, drawing from a list of topics which will be provided during the semester. Attendance will be taken and student participation in lecture-discussions encouraged. The following books will be required reading

John Eaton, Political Economy ISBN 0-77178-8-8
John Somerville, the Philosophy of Marxism ISBN 0-930656-18-0
Howard Selsam and Harry Martel, eds, Reader in Marxist Philosophy
Eric Hobsbawm, Age of Empire ISBN 0-679-72175-4
Roger Keeran and Thomas Kenny, Socialism Betrayed