Syllabus
ECON-325-001
Radical Economics

1:30 – 2:45 pm, TuTh, MEBB 1100
Fall 2014
Professor Dalton

Office: MEBB 3222 (Adjunct Offices)
Hours: 9:30 - 11:00, TuTh, or by appointment
E-mail: allendalton@boisestate.edu
Webpage: http://cobe.boisestate.edu/allendalton/fall-2014-radical-economics/

PREREQUISITES
Admission to COBE or B.A. Economics major or B.A. Economics, Social Studies, Secondary Education Emphasis major or Economics, Social Science, Secondary Education Minor, ECON 201 and ECON 202 (Principles of Macroeconomics and Microeconomics).

UNIVERSITY REQUIRED SYLLABUS STATEMENT:
Disability Accomodation
Students with disabilities needing accommodations to fully participate in this class should contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC). All accommodations MUST be approved through the DRC. Please stop by Administration 114 or call 208-426-1583 to make an appointment with a disability specialist. To learn more about the accommodation process, visit our website at http://drc.boisestate.edu

COBE REQUIRED SYLLABUS STATEMENTS:
Statement of Shared Values
Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members and all who are part of COBE are expected to adhere to the following values:

Academic Excellence – engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.
Caring – show concern for the welfare of others.
Citizenship – uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community, and staying informed on issues.
Fairness – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias.
Respect – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade.
Responsibility – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance, and continued improvement.
Trustworthiness – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability.
COBE Core Objectives – ECON 325

| Students in this class will learn or practice the following COBE Core Curriculum concepts, methods, and skills: |
| 1. Understand and apply analytical and disciplinary concepts and methods related to business and economics: |
| ☑ 1.3. Economics |
| 2. Communicate effectively: Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling |
| ☑ 2.1. Communicate effectively: Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling |
| ☑ 2.2. Communicate effectively: Give oral presentations that use effective content, organization, and delivery |
| 3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics |
| ☑ 3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics |
| 4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills |
| ☑ 4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills |
| 5. Resolve ethical issues related to business and economics |
| ☑ 5. Resolve ethical issues related to business and economics |

TEXTS AND STUDY MATERIALS
Required texts for this course are:

- Samuel Bowles and Herbert Gintis, *A Cooperative Species*, 2013
- Crispin Sartwell, *Against the State*, 2008

Other readings will be assigned or recommended during the semester; those which are not available from the internet will be distributed via your Boise State email address.

Powerpoint slides for some lectures will be accessible on the net via the course webpage. I do not use Blackboard, so please check the [course webpage](#) for course information.

COURSE OBJECTIVE AND FOCUS
The course content of most economic courses is dominated by a particular approach to both positive and normative questions. On the positive side, economic study is dominated by Neoclassical microeconomics and New Keynesian macroeconomics. On the normative side, economic study begins with an implicit defense of existing political-social economic arrangements. Courses in radical economics are meant to question the foundations of both positive and normative economics.

The course will be broken into three (unequal) sections. The first section will look at two recent contributions on understanding successful economic behavior as being the result of cooperation and moral foundations. The second (briefest) section will introduce the student to Marx, Marxism and Marxist economics. The third section will introduce the student to anarchism, with special attention being given to the provision of law under
anarchism. Marxism and anarchism are the two major alternatives to mainstream economics. Both the positive economics (heterodox economics) and alternative institutional arrangements for addressing socio-economic issues (heterodox political economy) of these two alternatives will be addressed. The student is encouraged to go beyond Marxism and anarchism and discover other variants of radical economics. At the conclusion of the course, the student should have a basic understanding and appreciation of heterodox economics and heterodox political economy.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
Students are expected to read the appropriate readings prior to lecture and discussion. Each class will begin with the interrogatory: “Are there any questions?” This is the student’s opportunity to ask questions over material previously covered, about the material under current discussion, or general economic matters. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner amenable to the learning process, treating one another with respect. Students are encouraged to form study groups among themselves, assist one another in mastering material, and provide one another with missed notes.

Please read the handout on Classroom Conduct and Expectations that appears on the course website.

GRADING
The final course grade will be based upon
(1) Two term papers totaling 400 points;
(2) Class participation (1/3 primary discussant) worth 300 points; and
(3) Three exams worth 300 points.

Total graded points are 1000. The following grading scale will be used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>965 – 1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>895 – 964</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>865 – 894</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>795 – 864</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>765 – 794</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>695 – 764</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>595 – 694</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 594</td>
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TERM PAPERS
Term papers are to be double-spaced, typed, and in font size no larger than 12. Margins should be 1” on top, bottom, and both sides. Each paper must have a separate title (cover) page, endnote page (if appropriate), and bibliography page (if appropriate).

Have someone else, preferably someone with good writing and verbal skills, proof-read your paper prior to turning it in. Don’t rely on spell and grammar check! Having someone else read the paper will also highlight areas where you are assuming knowledge on the part of the reader that perhaps should not be assumed, as well as pointing out gaps in the arguments or ambiguous phrasing.

Term papers are to be submitted both as a digital copy (to the instructor’s email address) and as a hard copy.
DO NOT USE “OPEN SOURCE” INTERNET SOURCES AS REFERENCED SOURCES IN PAPERS. You should always be wary of “open source” internet source or any internet source which is not clearly identified as to its authorship or provenance; an example of the former is Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page) and an example of the latter is the entry on Turgot from Question.com (http://www.question.com/link/Turgot-A.html) which is actually a plagiarized entry from The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th ed. Copyright © 2004, Columbia University Press.

There are two basic research papers: (1) Paper on Heterodox Economics and (2) Paper on Heterodox Political Economy. These papers are to show independent research into a heterodox school or heterodox economist outside of those covered in class.

PAPER ON HETERODOX ECONOMICS
Excluding the title page, endnote page(s), and bibliography, the paper is to be 10-12 pages in length. The paper should draw on at least 6 sources, of which at least 4 are not from the internet.

This paper is to address an issue relating to heterodox positive economics. Examples of such a paper would be: (1) A critique of a particular aspect of orthodox economics and a defense of a heterodox alternative; (2) An important contribution that heterodox economics can make to orthodox economics that would improve our understanding of the economy; (3) An overview of a heterodox school, identifying the main differences in methodology and understanding between the school and orthodox economics; (4) The major contributions of a particular heterodox economist. Topic choice should be approved on or before Thursday, September 18 and a brief outline of your paper is due on or before Thursday, October 2. This paper is due Thursday, October 23.

PAPER ON HETERODOX POLITICAL ECONOMY
Excluding the title page, endnote page(s), and bibliography, the paper is to be 10-12 pages in length. The paper should draw on at least 6 sources, of which at least 4 are not from the internet.

This paper is to address an issue relating to heterodox political economy. Examples of such a paper would be: (1) A critique of a particular policy associated with orthodox economics and a defense of a heterodox alternative; (2) An overview of the ideas of a non-Marxist socialist political economist; (3) An overview of the ideas of an anarchist political economist (not covered in class); (4) A discussion of the philosophical or epistemological foundations of a heterodox school in comparison with orthodox economics; (5) A defense of an alternative institutional framework for organizing economic activity; (6) A critical consideration of a speculative fiction book in light of heterodox political economy. A list of novels appropriate for such a paper is posted on the course webpage. Topic choice should be approved on or before Tuesday, October 28 and a brief outline of your paper is due on or before Thursday, November 13. This paper is due Thursday, December 4.
CLASS PARTICIPATION
The class participation grade (300 points) will center upon student reading and discussing selections from the assigned readings. One third (100 points) of the total will be based upon being the primary discussant of an assigned reading. Each student will be assigned primary responsibility for at least two readings/chapters during the semester. All students should be prepared for discussion!

An excellent description of how to increase your class-participation grade, “How to Get an ‘A’ on Class Participation,” authored by Drs. Lichtenstein and Reynolds, is provided on the course webpage.

EXAMS
There will be 3 exams, each worth 100 points. The tentative dates for the first two exams are Thursday, September 25 and Thursday, October 30. The third exam will be given during the final examination period, Tuesday, December 16, 2:30 – 4:30 pm.

RESOURCES
There are a wide variety of resources available to the student of radical economics. A familiarity with these resources will broaden and deepen your experience in this class. A list of websites and texts may be found on the course webpage.

MAKE-UP POLICY
Make-up exams will be given only for documented reasons, and only if the instructor is (1) notified by email prior to the absence, and (2) supporting documentation for the absence is presented upon return to class. Make-ups will not be provided for any other assignment, except in the event of extended, documented illness.

AUTHORIZED “EXTRA-CREDIT” OPPORTUNITIES
Up to 39 points (3.9% of total points) may be earned by attending authorized extra-credit opportunities on campus, featuring off-campus speakers. Attendance at each will be worth 13 points. Two of the three opportunities have been identified:

September 29 (evening) – Brandt Lecture: John Allison
November 20 (evening) – Distinguished Lecture Series: Salman Rushdie
The third opportunity will be identified and announced in class.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES

September 18 – Approval deadline for Heterodox Economics Paper
September 25 – 1st Exam
October 2 – Brief Outline of Heterodox Economics Paper Due
October 23 – Heterodox Economics Paper Due
October 28 – Approval deadline for Heterodox Political Economy Paper
October 30 – 2nd Exam
November 13 – Brief Outline of Heterodox Political Economy Paper Due
December 4 – Heterodox Political Economy Paper Due
December 16 – 3rd Exam; 2:30 – 4:30 pm
GENERAL POLICIES
There are no adjustments of dates except for those who are engaged in university sponsored activities. There are no extra credit projects beyond those listed above. An incomplete will be allowed for the class only if a 70% or better average is achieved through the second exam on October 30. Be aware that to receive an incomplete requires the completion of a contract with a date certain for completion of class requirements. Withdrawal from class is the responsibility of the student. Last day to drop “with a W” or completely withdraw from the university is October 3. The instructor does not initiate administrative withdrawals.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS
This outline may be adjusted as the course unfolds. Students will be notified when additional required or recommended readings are added to the syllabus; additional readings will either be posted on-line at the course webpage or handed out in class.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

I. Taking Political Economy Seriously
   Buchanan, “Equality as Fact and Norm”
   Buchanan, “Politics, Policy, and Pigovian Margins”

II. Why Radical Economics?
    Prychitko, “Introduction,” (handout)
    Hahnel, The ABCs of Political Economy, ch. 1 and 2 (handouts)

III. Cooperation and Morality
     Bowles and Gintis, A Cooperative Species
     Rose, The Moral Foundation of Economic Behavior
     Hayek, “The Use of Knowledge in Society”

IV. The Labor Theory of Value and the “Socialist Tradition”
    Ricardo, Principles of Political Economy and Taxation, ch. 1 and 5
    Hodgskin, Labour Defended Against the Claims of Capital

V. Marx
    Singer, Marx: A Very Short Introduction
    Marx, “On the Jewish Question”
    Marx, “Private Property and Communism”
    Marx and Engels, “Manifesto of the Communist Party”
    Marx, Wage-Labour and Capital
    Marx, Value, Price and Profit

VI. Anarchist Political Theory
    Sartwell, Against the State
VII. Anarchist Economics
Tucker, “State Socialism and Anarchism”
Carson, Studies in Mutualist Political Economy, ch. 2, 5, 6
Johnson, “Markets Freed from Capitalism,” in Chartier and Johnson, Markets, Not Capitalism, ch. 4

VIII. History of Individualist Anarchism
Stringham, ed., Anarchy and the Law, ch. 24 - 30

IX. The Economic Analysis of Anarchism
Powell and Stringham, “Public choice and the economic analysis of anarchy: a survey”

X. Private Property Anarchism and Polycentric Legal Orders
Stringham, ed., Anarchy and the Law, chapters 2 – 4, 14 - 20, and 34 - 40
LIST OF "HETERODOX POLITICAL ECONOMISTS"

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>19th-Century</strong></th>
<th><strong>20th-Century</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friedrich List</td>
<td>Gunnar Myrdal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Hodgskin</td>
<td>Thorsten Veblen</td>
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<td>John Francis Bray</td>
<td>John R. Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Rodbertus</td>
<td>Abba Lerner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errico Malatesta</td>
<td>Kenneth Boulding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry George</td>
<td>Murray Rothbard</td>
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<td>Voltairine de Cleyre</td>
<td>Daniel Kahneman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gustave de Molinari</td>
<td>Piero Sraffra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josiah Warren</td>
<td>Michal Kalecki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Tucker</td>
<td>Emma Goldman</td>
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<td>Lysander Spooner</td>
<td>Murray Bookchin</td>
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<td>François-Marie-Charles Fourier</td>
<td>Noam Chomsky</td>
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<td>Jean-Joseph Louis Blanc</td>
<td>Karl Hess</td>
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<td>Karl Kautsky</td>
<td>Paul Goodman</td>
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<td>Georges Sorel</td>
<td>Joan Robinson</td>
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<td>William Godwin</td>
<td>Alexander Berkman</td>
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<td>Pierre-Joseph Proudhon</td>
<td>Paul Ormerod</td>
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<td>Max Stirner</td>
<td>Nicholas Kaldor</td>
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<td>Mikhail Bakunin</td>
<td>Hyman Minsky</td>
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<td>Peter Kropotkin</td>
<td>George L.S. Shackle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo Tolstoy</td>
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