"The economist understands very well that men make cloth, linen or silk materials in definite relations of production. But what he has not understood is that these definite social relations are just as much produced by men as linen, flax, etc. In acquiring new productive forces men change their mode of production - in changing the way of earning their living, they change all their social relations"
-- Karl Marx

"The value or worth of a man; is as of all other things, his price; that is to say so much as would be given for the use of his power..., and as in other things, so in men too, not the seller- but the buyer determines their price... their true value is no more than it is esteemed by others"
-- Hobbes (Leviathan)

Instructor: Dr. M. Anne Visser
Office: 2319 Hart Hall
Office Telephone: 530-752-9935
Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30-11:00am
* Sign up at https://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/urtwq to schedule a meeting during office hours. Office hours are held by sign up only. *Please sign up for two slots as needed.
Email: mavisser@ucdavis.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the experience, organization, and systems of economic organization and labor that characterize the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. My goal is to encourage you to critically assess representations, determinants, and forms of economic restructuring, as well as to examine the ways that emerging economic patterns affect the well-being of workers, the local communities and labor markets in which they engage, and the overall economic structure of societies. This is a graduate elective course designed for students who are interested in the economic, political, and social dynamics of economic change, the intersections between power and work in society; labor processes and organizing; and the role of labor in economic development. Special attention is directed to the impacts of policy, society, community, and macroeconomic processes on the structures, experience, and power relations of work in local, national, and international contexts.

COURSE FORMAT

This is a graduate elective course. Following departmental structure it is scheduled for four hours per week. Students will take turns facilitating class discussion. In this role students are expected to summarize the major arguments of the articles read for the week, develop a critique of the readings, and guide class discussion. Attendance is expected. 30% of your grade will be based on what you prepare/present in class. By 12pm every Sunday before class, students must upload through Canvas a one page paper indicating what, based on the readings, are the important questions needed to be discussed in the following day’s lecture. These will be graded. Students will also be responsible for producing 3 précises that is summaries of the readings, (2-3 pages) for weeks 3-9. You have two "free passes" and the
lowest score will be dropped.

**READINGS**

Readings are important components to the course and are required. They are the necessary background for discussion. Participation in lectures is important and students are expected to be prepared to discuss readings in class. Additional or alternate readings may be assigned throughout the course as directed by the instructor. Some of the readings assigned in this course are quite difficult and include applications of structural equation models, categorical data analysis, and econometric methods. Students are expected and encouraged to do independent work to assist in grasping these issues if they have difficulty in understanding the work.

There are four required texts available for sale at the Campus Book Store and online. In addition, all other required materials will be posted on Canvas.

**Required Texts:**


**GRADING**

Course grades are based upon the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation, Weekly questions</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Session Facilitation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper Prospectus</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Précis</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term paper &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
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**The Précises**

Précis are not simply summaries of the readings, but a commentary or reaction to them. I expect to see a dialogue relating to multiple questions. What did you find interesting? What was particularly hard to understand? What questions linger? What annoyed you or caused a strong reaction? I expect the précis to be turned in at the start of the class in hard copy on the days the readings are due. **There will be no make ups.** No electronic submissions will be accepted.
Term Paper

Each student will complete a term paper of 15-20 pages (excluding the bibliography) focused on a recent policy enacted to address a topic relevant to the class. The term paper is due at 5 pm on the Wednesday following the last week of class.

Students will be required to turn in a prospectus during the fourth week of the course (April 23rd) in hardcopy at the beginning of class and electronically through Canvas. The prospectus should identify your topic in about 250-500 words, include an outline, a list of at least 5 sources, and if you are planning to conduct one or more interviews, a description of your research design or strategy for obtaining interviews. Both a hard copy and electronic copy uploaded to Canvas will be required.

The policy act chosen must be currently proposed or recently implemented. Papers are expected to be explicitly analytical, rather than descriptive. That is they must articulate and develop an argument in relation to the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of policy related to the subject matter discussed. You will be required to provide an overview of the law, its current status, the affected population and why such rulemaking was seen as necessary in relation to the subjects discussed in class. You will justify your position using the concepts and theories learned in class and will be expected to demonstrate how your research relates to your understanding of the course concepts, readings, and theories. Data collection for the paper should be based on: scholarly journals, newspapers, magazines, congressional testimonies, archival material, planning department documents, government reports, and analyses, census data, and other governmental data sources. Use of APA citation style will be required. Relevant literature can be explored in consultation with the instructor and may be suggested through reference in the readings assigned for each class meeting.

The paper must be clear concise and succinct. You should include data in tables, graphs, and or figures if you have large amounts of quantitative data you would like to include. Tables, figures, and graphs must have a descriptive title over it and be referred to by figure number in the text of the research paper. Grades for the term papers will be based on organization, thoroughness of argument, and connection/integration of various themes, concepts, and readings from the course to explain your research problem. Papers should demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the course material.

Term papers must be typewritten, double-spaced, and printed only on one side. Students must submit a paper copy of the paper to my mailbox by 11:59PM on 6/13. I will also require that you submit an electronic copy of the paper through the Canvas. All papers submitted through Canvas
must be in Microsoft word and in PDF form. Please use Times New Roman size 12 font and in APA citation style. Title your attachments in the following way: lastnameCRD247Spring2017. I must receive a hard copy and an electronic copy through Canvas. Late papers will automatically receive a full grade deduction and failure to submit both an electronic and paper copy will result in an incomplete fulfillment of the assignment and will be considered to be late.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

All students should be familiar with the Student Code of Academic Conduct that is located here: http://xia.ucdavis.edu/cac.html. Please review this carefully and ask the instructor, if you have any questions. The instructor is obliged to refer you to Student Judicial Affairs in all cases of violation or suspected violation. In all cases of plagiarism the student will receive an automatic grade of a 0 on the assignment. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.

In addition to plagiarism and cheating on examinations, it is also a violation of the Student Code of Academic Conduct to use your own written materials prepared for other classes unless you take the following points into consideration:

It is permissible to use materials and texts from other class projects, within CRD or in other departments, under these conditions:

1) You inform the instructor beforehand.
2) You clearly identify the portions where you quote yourself (or collaborative work) within the written assignment.
3) You provide a copy of the previous work you have submitted in the other class to the instructor.
4) To ensure that you receive a good grade the material must fit seamlessly into the assignment for THIS class.
5) If you have any doubts about the extent to which you can use previously written materials, talk to the instructor prior to making any submission.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

4/1: INTRO AND CLASS ORIENTATION


4/8: NO CLASS – American Association of Geographers Conference & Work on Precis

4/15- IMPACT OF CAPITALISM ON THE STRUCTURE AND EXPERIENCE OF WORK-


4/22 - NEOLIBERALISM AND THE ORGANIZATION AND EXPERIENCE OF WORK: TERM PAPER PROPOSAL IS DUE


4/29- LABOR MARKET SEGMENTATION

Peck, J. *Work Place.* 3-4


5/6: THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF ECONOMIC Restructuring Part I


5/13 - ORGANIZED LABOR


5/20: NO CLASS: WORK ON YOUR TERM PAPER

5/28: MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

6/3- CONSEQUENCES OF WORK IN THE NEW ECONOMY


6/10- TERM PAPERS DUE BY 11:59PM