

# **POLSH365: Solidarity Economy Movements**

(Spring 2016)

## **Professor Craig Borowiak**

Office Hours: MW 2:45 – 4:00pm (or by appt.)

Office: Hall 214

Email: cborowia@haverford.edu

Class period: Tues 1:30-4pm

Classroom: East KINSC 115

During this intensive research seminar we will critically examine the politics, theory, and social networks related to **solidarity economy** movements. The term “solidarity economy” refers to a wide set of initiatives around the world that seek alternatives to mainstream capitalism by organizing economic activity around principles of social solidarity, cooperation, and community-based development. Examples include the fair trade movement, eco-villages, consumer and producer cooperatives, and participatory budgeting, among other related initiatives. Some of these initiatives are conceived as radical alternatives to mainstream capitalism. Others are seen to offer niches of alternative economic practices within a larger capitalist framework. Over the past several years several national, regional, and global networks have been formed around the idea of social and solidarity economy. In this course we will be analyzing the coherence (or incoherence) of these networks and movements. We will compare and contrast different conceptual frameworks and terminologies for describing alternative economies. We will examine efforts to map solidarity economy practices and we will examine examples drawn from a variety of countries and localities. This seminar is designed to involve a considerable amount of collaborative research.

### **Classroom Etiquette and Protocols:**

- Be respectful of other students, but understand that critique can also be a sign of respect. Do not be afraid to challenge other students and the professor, but do so respectfully.
- NO TEXT-MESSAGING in class.
- Any student who misses more than three weeks of class may face dismissal from the course
- All assignments must be completed to pass the course

### **Assignments:**

- 1) **1-page response essays for weekly readings and for films**
- 2) **5-7 page essay on the concept solidarity economy**
- 3) **Brief classroom presentation on solidarity economy initiative**
- 4) **3-5 page research proposal**
- 5) **PowerPoint classroom presentation on research**
- 6) **Final Paper with Annotated Bibliography**

Paper should be 7-8000 words (approx. 20-25 pages), not including the bibliography. It should be formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style. Paper topics will be coordinated so as to avoid too much overlap and to ensure a good coverage of the issues for classroom presentations. Students will be encouraged to think of the entire course as a giant collaborative research project.

**Evaluation (approximate):**

- Participation, response essays, short presentation: 20%
- 5-7 page essay: 15%
- PowerPoint presentation: 15%
- Annotated Bibliography and Research Proposal: 10%
- Research Paper: 40%

**FILM SCREENINGS**

This course will involve several documentary film screenings outside of class. These are required and are intended as a complement for the course readings and in-class discussions. If you are not able to attend one or more of the screenings, you are responsible for watching them on your own. Copies of the films will be made available at the Magill library reserve desk.

**Books for purchase**

- Erik Olin Wright, *Envisioning Real Utopias* (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 2010)
- J. K. Gibson-Graham, *A Post-Capitalist Politics* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2006)
- Jessica Gordon Nembhard, *Collective Courage: A History of African American Cooperative Economic Thought and Practice* (University Park, PA: Penn State University Press, 2014)

All other readings will be available on Moodle or on the internet via web addresses listed on the syllabus. Additionally, a webpage on the solidarity economy has been prepared for this course.

<https://www.haverford.edu/politicalscience/solidarityeconomy/>

**NOTE:** Haverford College is committed to supporting the learning process for all students. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulties in the course. There are also many resources on campus available to you as a student, including the Office of Academic Resources (<https://www.haverford.edu/oar/>) and the Office of Access and Disability Services (<https://www.haverford.edu/access-and-disability-services/>). If you think you may need accommodations because of a disability, you should contact Access and Disability Services at [hc-ads@haverford.edu](mailto:hc-ads@haverford.edu). If you have already been approved to receive academic accommodations and would like to request accommodations in this course because of a disability, please meet with me privately at the beginning of the semester (ideally within the first two weeks) with your verification letter.



# **COURSE SCHEDULE**

(Subject to Change)

Jan 19      **First Class. Introductions**

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## **Section 1: Theorizing Solidarity Economies & Social Transformation**

Jan 26      **Social Solidarity Economy: Definitions and Networks**

*The Human Economy* (213-35, 284-92)

Interview with Luis Razeto (skim)

Lester M. Salamon and Helmlt K. Anileier, "The challenge of definition: Thirteen realities in search of a concept"

Ethan Miller, "Other Economies are Possible," *Dollars & Sense*, July/August 2006.

Jacques DeFourny and Patrick Develtere, "The Social Economy: The Worldwide Making of a Third Sector"

Frank Moulaert and Oana Ailenei "Social Economy, Third Sector and Solidarity Relations: A Conceptual Synthesis from History to Present" *Urban Studies*, 42, No. 11, 2037-2053

Michelle Williams, "the solidarity economy and social transformation" in *The Solidarity Economy Alternative: Emerging Theory and Practice* (37-63)

Jean-Louis Laville, "The Solidarity Economy: An International Movement" *RCCS Annual Review*, 2, October 2010, 1-39

Gar Alperovitz, "The New Economy Movement," *The Nation*, June 13, 2011.

***5-7 page essay due in class*** (no weekly response paper due)

Feb 2      **Envisioning Real Utopias I**

Erik Olin Wright, *Envisioning Real Utopias*, Chapters 1-4

Feb 9      **Envisioning Real Utopias II**

Erik Olin Wright, *Envisioning Real Utopias*, Chapters 5-8

Feb 16      **Envisioning Real Utopias III**

Erik Olin Wright, *Envisioning Real Utopias*, Chapters 9-11, Conclusion.

***Proposal due Friday February 19***

Feb 23

## **Diverse Economies and Post-Capitalist Politics**

J. K. Gibson-Graham, *A Post-Capitalist Politics*, xix -78 (Especially Chapter 3)

J. K. Gibson-Graham, Jenny Cameron, and Stephen Healy, *Take Back the Economy: an Ethical Guide for Transforming Our Communities* (Selections)

### **Presentations of Research Proposals**

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## **Section 2: Solidarity Economies in Practice**

Mar 1:

### **Introducing Cooperatives**

John Restakis, *Humanizing the Economy*, Chapter 2 (27-54)

Johnston Birchall. *People-Centred businesses: Co-operatives, mutual and the idea of membership*. Chapters 1 & 2 (1-16, 20-42)

Henry Hansmann. *The Ownership of Enterprise*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996, (11 – 49)

J.K. Gibson-Graham, *A Post-Capitalist Politics*, Chapter Five (101-126)

Carl Ratner, “Rethinking the politics of the mainstream co-op movement” in *Social Economy in China and the World* (41-58)

Erik K. Olsen (2013), The Relative Survival of Worker Cooperatives and Barriers to Their Creation, in *Sharing Ownership, Profits, and Decision-Making in the 21st Century* (83 – 107)

## **4-13 March: Spring Break**

Mar 15

### **African American Cooperatives**

Jessica Gordon Nembhard, *Collective Courage: A History of African American Cooperative Economic Thought and Practice* (Entire Book)

Mar 22

### **International Perspectives**

Craig Borowiak, “Mapping Social and solidarity economy: the local and translocal evolution of a concept” in *Social Economy in China and the World* (NY: Routledge, 2015) (17-40)

#### **LATIN AMERICA**

\*\*César A. Rodríguez-Garavito, “Solidarity Economy and the Struggle for Social Citizenship in Times of Globalization: A Study of the Cooperatives of Informal Garbage Pickers in Columbia”

Marcelo Vieta and Andrés Ruggeri, “Worker-Recovered Enterprises as Workers' Cooperatives: The Conjunctures, Challenges, and Innovations of Self-Management in Argentina” in *Co-operatives in a Global Economy: The Challenges of Co-operation Across Borders* (178-225)

Eduardo Gudynas, “Buen Vivir: Today's tomorrow,” *Development*, 2011, 54(4), (441–447)

## BRAZIL

\*\*Euclides Mance, "The solidarity economy in Brazil" *The Solidarity Economy Alternative: Emerging Theory and Practice*. (150-176)

Maliha Safri, "The Politics of Mapping Solidarity Economies and Diverse Economies in Brazil and the Northeastern United States," in *Making Other Worlds Possible: Performing Diverse Economies* (296-321).

## ITALY

"Economics, Cooperation, and Employee Ownership: The Emilia-Romagna Model" <http://dept.kent.edu/oec/publicationsresearch/winter05-06.pdf>

\*\*Devi Sacchetto and Marco Semenzin, "Workers' cooperatives in Italy: between solidarity and autocratic centralism" in *Social Economy in China and the World* (135-155)

## SOUTH AFRICA

Vishwas Satgar, "The solidarity economy alternative in South Africa: Prospects and challenges" in *The Solidarity Economy Alternative: Emerging Theory and Practice*. (199-226)

## CANADA

Marguerite Mendell, "The three pillars of the social economy: the Quebec experience" in *The Social Economy. International Perspectives on Economic Solidarity*, 176-207

Monica Juarez Adeler. "Enabling policy environments to support cooperative development: A comparative experience". Winnipeg Inner City Research Alliance, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB. 2009

Mar 29

## **Independent Research**

Attend Swarthmore Conference

Apr 5

## **Solidarity and Food**

### **Community Gardens**

Laura Lawson, "The Planner in the Garden: A Historical View into the Relationship between Planning and Community Gardens," *Journal of Planning History*, Vol. 3 no. 2 (2004): 151-176.

Laura Lawson, *City Bountiful: A Century of Community Gardening in America* (287-302)

Peleg Kremer and Tracy L. DeLiberty, "Local food practices and growing potential: Mapping the case of Philadelphia," *Applied Geography* 31 (2011) 1252-1261.

Domenic Vitiello and Michael Nairn, "Community Gardening in Philadelphia. 2008 Harvest Report"

### **Food Cooperatives**

Anne Meis Knupfer, *Food Co-ops in America: Communities, Consumption, and Economic Democracy*

- Introduction (only pp 1-6)
- Chapter 2: Food Cooperatives, 1930s-1950s (31-46)(skim)

- Chapter 7: Food Cooperatives, 1960s-1990s (129-140)
  - Chapter 10: Food Cooperatives in the Twin Cities (175-189)
  - Epilogue: the Age of the “Organic-Industrial Complex” (190-203)
- Andrew Zitcer, “Food Coops and the Paradox of Exclusivity”

### **Food Sovereignty**

Michael Lewis and Pat Conroy, *The Resilience Imperative* (230-240)

Apr 12

### **Solidarity Finance, Alternative Currencies, and Public Policies**

Robert Eletto and Marianna Pavlovskaya, “Geographies of ethical finance: Credit Unions in New York City”

Christian Jacquier, “Chapter 2: Savings, credit and solidarity in developing countries” in *Social Economy. North and South*, ed. Defourny, Develtere and Foneneau (2000)

Jérôme Blanc, “Community and Complementary Currencies” in *The Human Economy* (303-313)

“Miguel” Yasuyuki Hirota, “Complementary Currencies as a Method to Promote the Solidarity Economy” in *Solidarity Economy 1* (75-86)

Sam Shain, “[Ex]change: Alternative Currencies in Mexico City and the Urban Imaginary”

Seyfang, G (2010) “Time banking: A new economics alternative,” in *Interrogating Alterity: Alternative Economic and Political Spaces* (193-206)

Gilles L. Bourque, Margie Mendell, and Ralph Rouzier, “Solidarity Finance: History of an Emerging Practice,” in *Innovation and the Social Economy: The Quebec Experience* (180-205)

Selected readings on Cleveland’s “Evergreen Initiative” and Cincinnati’s Union – Cooperative model (See Moodle)

## **SECTION THREE: RESEARCH & PRESENTATIONS**

Apr 19

### **Presentations:**

Readings to be determined by students in conversation with professor

Apr 26

### **Presentations:**

Readings to be determined by students in conversation with professor