



Seminar: Anarchism and Radical Democracy

Sommer 2013,
BTU Cottbus

Prof. Dr. Christian Lotz

Tentative Schedule (last **UPDATE**: June 18, 2013 - PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES)

Nummer	Datum	Thema	Textgrundlage	Information	Kurzreferat
1	April 11	no class (I am still in the US)			
2	April 19	no class (I am still in the US)			
Introduction					
3	April 25	Introduction: Post-Democracy and the Role of the State			
French Anarchism					
4	May 2	Ranciere	Ranciere, The Hatred of Democracy, chapter 1-2		
5	May 9	no class (holiday)			
6	May 16	no class			
7	May 23	Ranciere	Ranciere, The Hatred of Democracy, chapter 3-4		
8	May 30	Abensour	Abensour, Democracy against the State, prefaces, forward, introduction + chapter 1		
9	June 6	Abensour	Abensour, Democracy against the State, chapter 5 + conclusion		
10	June 13	Abensour (change!!)	Abensour follow-up session; readings from the previous sections, especially chapter 5 and conclusion		
US-Anarchism					
11	June 20	Chomsky	Chomsky, On Anarchism, chapters 3-6		
12	June 27	Chomsky	Chomsky, On Anarchism, chapters 7-11		
13	July 4	Graeber	Graeber, There Never Was a West: Or, Democracy Emerges From the Spaces in Between (pdf); Graeber, Fragments of an Anarchist Anthropology (pdf)		
14	July 11	Graeber	Graeber, Direct Action, Democracy, Radical Democracy (pdf)		

Class Meetings:

Days: Thursdays

Time: 17:30-19 Uhr

Place: ZHG, Seminarraum 1

Office:

Phone: TBA

Place: Lehrgebaeude 10, 134k

Hours: Thursdays, 15:30-17 Uhr, and by appointment

Other Contact:

E-mail: lotz@msu.edu

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Webpage: <http://christianlotz.wordpress.com>

Beschreibung

Though relatively unknown in Europe, the Anglo-American traditions in social-political philosophy not only contain conservative libertarian versions of society, but, in addition, also progressive libertarian visions of sociality. These left-libertarian and anarchist philosophies are often connected to radical conceptions of democracy and culture, developed during the 60s, which also motivated some parts of the Occupy movement. In this seminar we will try to think more clearly about concepts of radical democracy focussing on recent attempts to revive the idea of anarchism.

Textgrundlagen

Every student should have the following titles at the beginning of our seminar:

Chomsky, Noam, Chomsky on Anarchism, Edinburgh: AK Press (several editions)

Ranciere, Jacques, The Hatred of Democracy, London: Verso 2009

Abensour, Miguel, Democracy against the State, London: Polity 2011

Bookchin, Murray, The Ecology of Freedom: The Emergence and Dissolution of Hierarchy, Oakland: AK Press 2005

Additional selections from Bakunin and David Graeber will be available as copies/pdf files .

Introductory overview of the history of anarchism:

Marshall, Peter, Demanding the Impossible. A History of Anarchism, PM Press 2010

Information

Anarchist Online Library: <http://theanarchistlibrary.org/>

Conditions

- Regular participation (= if you miss more than 2 class sessions, your grade will be reduced)
- Preparation of the textual material
- Leistungsnachweis

Leistungsnachweis

Active Participation (10%) + Handout (10%) + paper (80%)

[Click here to download the final paper assignment](#)

Laptop/Cell Phone Policy

You are not permitted to use laptops and cell phones in class. Please do not text under the table. Cell phones should be removed from tables. Failure to follow this policy will lead to unannounced assignments in class or loss of points (at the digression of the instructor).

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