

Center for a Stateless Society
Foundational Certificate in Anarchist Theory and Practice
ATP 101 An Introduction to Anarchism

INSTRUCTOR Gary Chartier
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COURSE DESCRIPTION The purpose of this course is to ground you in the basic principles of anarchism. Its focus will be on market anarchism—that is, on the family of approaches to anarchism that assume the legitimacy of property rights and free exchange. But it is designed more broadly to give you a sense of how anarchists of multiple varieties think about human problems and envision solutions to these problems without the interference of the state.

By the conclusion of the course, you should be able to:

1. identify and evaluate key anarchist arguments against the justice and desirability of the state;
2. comprehend, analyze, and evaluate a sample of anarchist proposals for facilitating voluntary, cooperative solutions to social problems; and
3. synthesize and defend an initial proposal for an effective response to a clearly delimited social problem people would likely confront in a stateless society.

TEXT The principal text for the course will be:

Tannehill, Morris, and Tannehill, Linda. *The Market for Liberty*. 3rd ed. San Francisco, CA: Fox 1993. 978-0930073084. <<http://www.mises.org/books/marketforliberty.pdf>>

This is by no means the only introductory book about anarchism available. It is not the only book about market anarchism available. But is clear, accessible, and provocative. It is also a book that has played a key role in attracting many people to anarchism; it is thus important historically as well as conceptually.

EVALUATION Your final grade for the course will depend on the information regarding your competence with respect to the subject matter of the course provided by your response papers, analyses, and final project and by your contributions to class discussions. You will not receive credit for any work you submit that is not clearly your own.

Critiques Before each class session, you will submit a critique focused on a question specified in the schedule for the course. You should upload your critique to the class website. Each critique should be printed in 12-point serif type, single-spaced, on a single sheet of US letter-size paper. All of the text in your critique should be justified, and each paragraph should be indented one-half inch. It should be between 500 and 600 words long. Your critique should offer a careful, reflective, analytically rigorous answer to the question on which it focuses; it need not draw on any published source; and, apart from brief, necessary references to the text, it should be entirely your own work.

Participation A class discussion will take place for between thirty and forty-five minutes during each week of the course at a time agreed upon by the instructor and the members of the class. You should plan to participate in each discussion, offering thoughtful responses to comments made and questions offered by the instructor and other class members, proposing your own questions, and advancing cogent analyses of topics under discussion.

Analyses Each week, you should post to the class blog a brief analysis (between 150 and 200 words) of an item in the news (please cite an electronic or print source) in light of issues discussed in class or addressed in the readings you have completed. You should also offer at least two responses each week to news analyses offered by others.

Project You will complete a written project of 8,000 to 10,000 words. In the project, you should examine a social problem people are likely to confront in a stateless society. You should explain the nature of the problem, delineate three to five ways in which people could reasonably address this problem in the absence of the state, evaluate the alternatives, and defend your proposed solution. Your paper should be printed in 12-point serif type on 24-point lines and on US letter-size paper, with one-inch margins. Your paper should cite at least seven books and at least ten articles in scholarly journals, and should ideally incorporate perspectives from both the social sciences and from normative political theory. Please use footnotes to indicate sources and please format them using MLA footnote style.

GRADING You may receive a grade of Honors, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory in the course. Your grade will reflect a holistic assessment of your performance on all course-related exercises.

SCHEDULE It is crucial that you participate in each week's class discussion and that you read assigned material before it is discussed.

- Week 1* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 1-15. Please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique before class-time today. Your critique should address the question: *What is aggression? How can we distinguish between aggression and other kinds of undesirable influence?*
- Week 2* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 16-42. Please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique before class-time today. Your critique should focus on the question: *To what extent and in what ways, if any, does government exhibit the problems typical of other monopolies?*
- Week 3* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 44-64. Please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique before class-time today. Your critique should focus on the question: *Is taxation theft? Why or why not?*
- Week 4* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 65-87. Please submit a topic for your final paper to the instructor by class-time today, and please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique before class begins. Your critique should focus on the question: *In what way or ways would it be most difficult for insurance companies to function successfully as sources of justice and defense against aggression?*
- Week 5* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 88-108. Please submit a draft bibliography for your final project to the instructor by class-time today, and please post a news analysis to the class blog before class begins. Your critique should focus on the question: *Is restitution preferable to retribution? Why or why not?*
- Week 6* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 109-25. Please submit a one-page, single-spaced draft outline of your final project to the instructor by class-time today, and please post a news analysis to the class blog before class begins. Your critique should focus on the question: *Would private for-profit or not-for-profit providers of defensive services go to war with each other in a stateless society? Why or why not?*
- Week 7* Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 126-48. Please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique by class-time today. Your critique should focus on the question: *Would the risk that people from one society would attack another be greater in the absence of the state than they are given the state's existence? Why or why not?*

Week 8 Before this week's class, you should have read Tannehill and Tannehill 150-69. Your final project is due fourteen days after the conclusion of our final class session unless you have made special arrangements with the instructor, and please post a news analysis to the class blog and submit your critique before class begins. Your critique should focus on the question: *What is the fairest and most effective way of removing property from the control of the state?*

**ABOUT THE
FOUNDATIONAL
CERTIFICATE**

This course is the first of a sequence of four classes leading to the Foundational Certificate in Anarchist Theory and Practice offered by the Center for a Stateless Society. Successful completion of ATP 101 will equip you to enroll in ATP 102 Law and Order in a Stateless Society. You must earn a grade of Satisfactory in each course to obtain the Foundational Certificate; if you obtain three Honors grades, you will receive the Foundational Certificate with Honors.

**ABOUT THE
INSTRUCTOR**

Gary Chartier is Associate Dean of the School of Business and Associate Professor of Law and Business Ethics at La Sierra University. He is the author of *Economic Justice and Natural Law* (Cambridge: CUP 2009), *The Analogy of Love* (Exeter: Imprint 2007), and the forthcoming *The Conscience of an Anarchist*, as well as more than twenty-five scholarly articles in publications including the *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, the *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, *Legal Theory*, the *American Journal of Jurisprudence*, and *Ratio Juris*. He is a founding member of the advisory board of the Center for a Stateless Society.