

Instructor

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Video Lectures by Gary Chartier

**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://libertyactivism.info/wiki/The_Market_for_Liberty

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 should be dependent on your confidence and creativity with respect to the subject matter of the course. We will be providing you with different options to test and challenge your knowledge of anarchism. Needless to say, you will not receive as much benefit from any work you submit that is not clearly your own.

Critiques

Each week, the course will focus on a section of the text. An accompanying question provides a suggested topic for a critique of that section. You should upload your critique to the class website or email it to me. Ideally, critiques should be between 500 and 600 words long. It should offer a careful, reflective, analytically rigorous answer to the question on which it focuses; it need not draw on any published source.

Blogs As an alternative to the critique, you can submit any post (of similar length) that you write in your blog that week, on any topic relevant to anarchist theory and practice.

Chats An online chat will be made available for students twice a week for :

- Primary Meeting: Sundays @ 11-11:30AM Pacific;
- Alt. Meeting: Wednesdays @ 6-6:30PM Pacific.

Participation in the chat is optional, but encouraged. It serves as a way to interact with your classmates, exchange ideas, and ask questions.

Analyses By the end of the course we challenge each student to write two news related articles. The first article should test your ability to identify state violations of anarchist principles; and the second article should challenge your understanding of those principles by proposing an anarchist solution to a state institution. The articles can be of any length (between 150 to 400 words is fine, for those who like to work with a budget), so long as they are clear and hard hitting; please cite an electronic or print source. The Center, with your expressed permission and aliases can be made available, would like to publish any of these articles in a Raising Star section of the C4SS site.

Grading

Your grade will be *self-assigned* (Honors, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, or N/A), reflecting your submitted work, participation, and confidence with regard to basic anarchist theory and your ability to fruitfully engage in subsequent C4SS courses.

We request that you also evaluate the instructor of this class and assign a grade of Honors, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, or N/A in the presentation and facilitation of the course.