SOC 2043  Gramsci, Hegemony and Society

Date and time: Fridays 11-12.00  
Course lecturer: Professor Peter Mayo  
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General Description

This course will serve as an introduction to the writings of one of the foremost social and political theorists of the 20th century –Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937). His work has had an enormous influence on several fields as this course will show, including sociology, political science, education, cultural studies and literary theory. The first part of the unit will introduce course participants to major themes in his work, notably Hegemony (ideology, renegotiation and reconstruction, common sense, good sense). Intellectuals, State and Civil Society, Religion (Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam), Culture (popular and ‘highbrow’- impact on cultural studies, subaltern studies with references to Williams, Hall, Hoggart, Guha), Passive Revolution and ‘ Intellectual and Moral Reform,’ Industrial democracy (factory council theory and unions), Language, Literature, The ‘Quistione Meridionale’ (Southern Question). There will be a final focus in the course’s latter part on one aspect of his work, the all pervasive theme of Education conceived of in its broader context and as central to the workings of Hegemony itself.

Outline

2. The State and Civil Society – the Integral State: ‘Relational’ aspect of the State: the state as a relation of production; ‘bodies of armed men’; encircling the state. War of Position vs. war of maneuver. East-West conditions.


4. Intellectuals: traditional and organic, great and subaltern intellectuals. Croce, Philosophy and Religion

5. Gramsci, Hegemony and Religion: Protestantism, Catholicism and Islam.
   - Guest lecturer: Professor Carmel Borg  http://www.um.edu.mt/educ/educstudies/staff

6. Taylorisation of production: Americanism and Fordism


9. Language: normative grammar vs spontaneous grammar


12. Area focus: Gramsci and Education: a holistic interpretation – every relationship of hegemony a pedagogical relationship. The philosophy/pedagogy of praxis


14. Gramsci and the Education of Adults

   Evaluation: assignment. Title to be negotiated with Lecturer. 2000words

   Set Texts
   


   Other important readings/excerpts from:


Gramsci, Antonio (1975), Q. 1V and XII, Quaderni del Carcere, Valentino Gerratana (Ed.), Turin: Einaudi.


Guha, Ranajit (2009), ‘Ommaggio a un Maestro’ in Giancarlo Schirru (ed.) Gramsci, le Culture e il Mondo, Rome: Viella


Showstack, Sassoon, Anne (2009), ‘Raymond Williams, Stuart Hall, Gramsci e noi’ in Schirru, Giancarlo (ed.)(2009) Gramsci, le Culture e il Mondo, Rome: Viella. Original English version kindly provided for this course by Professor Showstack Sassoon: ‘Raymond Williams, Stuart Hall, Gramsci and Us’


Website

International Gramsci Society Website: http://www.internationalgramscisociety.org/about_igs/index.html

Audio and visual material


Gramsci and Us –Peter Thomas Gramsci and us: building socialist hegemony today | Peter Thomas | 19 May 2011 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEHmOaY7DBk


Podcast Joseph Buttigieg ‘Power and Consent in Gramsci’ part lecture and part interview that was broadcasted on the radio program Living Room on KPFA in Berkeley, CA. Lecture delivered at Rethinking Marxism conference at
http://www.internationalgramscisociety.org/audio-video/index.html