Part I: The Marxist Theory of History

1. Karl Marx's Theory of History -- Basic Theses of Original Mid-19th Century Marxism Viewed from Late 20th Century Historical and Intellectual Perspectives (Sept. 21).

Readings:

2. The Nature of Socio-Historical Transitions and Problems of Historical Periodization (Sept. 28).

Readings:
Karl Marx, "Preface" to A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy, Marx-Engels Reader, pp. 3-6.
Marx, The German Ideology (Part I), ME Reader, pp. 146-200.
Marx, Letter to the editorial board of Otechestvenniye Zapiski (1877) in Teodor Shanin, Late Marx and the Russian Road: Marx and the Peripheries of Capitalism -- and elsewhere. (Copies will be distributed)


Chinese Historical Perspectives: Arif Dirlik, Revolution and History: Origins of Marxist Historiography in China, 1919-1937 (California, 1978), esp. ch. 6 and scan the preceding chapters. N.B.: The whole of the Dirlik book should be read carefully over the next two or three weeks.
3. The Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism (Oct. 5)

Readings:
Paul Sweezy, Maurice Dobb, et al, *The Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism* (any of several editions)


China: Arif Dirlik, *Revolution and History*, esp. ch. 4

4. Marxism and Populism (Oct. 12) (Prof. Catherine Lynch)

Readings: TBA

5. The Asiatic Mode of Production (Oct. 19)

Readings:


6. The Appeals of the Marxist Theory of History in China (Oct. 26)

Readings:
Joseph Levenson, *Confucian China and Its Modern Fate* (California, 1968), Vol. I, ch. 10; Vol. III, chs. 3 & 4
Arif Dirlik, *Revolution and History*, chs. 7 & 8.

PART II: MARXISM AND CAPITALISM

7. Marxism and the Historical Progressiveness of Capitalism (Nov. 2)

Readings:
Maurice Meisner, *Marxism, Maoism and Utopianism*, chs. 1 and 2 (pp. 3-75)
Marx and Engels, *The Manifesto*
M. Meisner, portion of Ch. 15 of mss. on Post-Mao China, section on capitalism in Post-Maoist Chinese Marxist thought.

8. The Marxist Critique of Capitalism (Nov. 9)

Readings:
Karl Marx, selections from *Capital*, Vol. I
M. Meisner, "Marx, Mao and Deng on the Division of Labor in History," in A. Dirlik and M. Meisner (eds), *Marxism and the Chinese Experience*, ch. 5 (pp. 79-116).

9. Marxism Bound by Capitalism (Nov. 16)

Reading: Arif Dirlik, "Post-Socialist Marxism: Critical Considerations" (copies of the paper will be distributed)

Comments by Tom Lutze, M. Meisner, Wang Yaan-ieee and others
PART C: Selected Theoretical and Historical Topics (to be continued in the Spring semester)

10. Classes and Class Struggle in Marxist Theory and Chinese History (Nov. 23)

Readings:
Erik Olin Wright, Classes (London: Verso, 1985), pp. 6-34 and passim

11. The Nation and Nationalism in Marxist Theory and Chinese Marxist Thought (Nov. 30)

Readings:
Tina Chen, "The Role of the Nation in Chen Duxiu's Thought"
Tina Chen,

The meetings of December 7 and 14 will be devoted to the discussion of research and paper proposals -- or, possibly, actual papers.