As this is a pro-seminar, the main concerns of the class will be reading and discussing the literature on the political economy of the United States since 1890. Each week, the readings will focus on topics around which the literature is organized. During the semester, you should become familiar with the literature on the history of American political economy since 1890 and sensitive to its strengths and inadequacies. You should also become aware of the potential for conducting research in new areas.

There are more titles on the reading lists than any student can master. However, through a collective effort, students should become familiar with many of the readings on the lists. Most weeks, all students are expected to read a common core of literature. Hopefully, students will also read other titles on the reading lists.

CLASS DISCUSSIONS

Each week, the discussions will focus on the subject of that week’s readings. The discussions will be led by groups of two or three students who should collaborate in preparing for the sessions which they will lead. Each student will participate in leading three class discussions during the semester.

A seminar involves collective effort. It will work well only if everyone works together and if all participants collaborate and do their work in a timely manner. If you ease up, you injure the quality of the entire class.

LONGER PAPERS

Each student is to write two papers, each being approximately 10-12 typed, double-spaced pages in length. These papers are to be critical reviews of books or literature which confront major problems or questions posed by the course. The model for these papers will be essays which appear in either The New York Review of Books or Reviews in American History. All paper topics must be approved in advance by Mr. Hollingsworth. The first paper is due no later than March 18 and the second paper is due no later than the week of the last class meeting, though you may submit your papers before these dates. Each student is advised to choose topics well in advance of these dates.

GRADING

Grading will be based on weekly class participation, papers, and one’s role in leading the three class discussions.
BOOKS AND ARTICLES AVAILABILITY

I have requested that each book and article with an asterisk (*) be placed on 3-hour reserve in the State Historical Society and/or the Helen C. White Library. If you cannot locate a book or article in these places, please contact me.

Materials with an # are to be read by all members of the class. From time to time, additional materials will be placed on reserve.

Materials labeled "packet" are in a reading packet prepared by Bob's Copy Shop in University Square. All students are expected to purchase this packet.

Materials labeled "Readings on American Political Economy" are prepared by myself and are on 3 hour reserve in the Helen C. White Library. You should be able to find this packet under my name in the reserve room.

January 22: Introduction

Core Readings to be Read and Consulted Throughout the Semester:

# J. Rogers Hollingsworth, "The Logic of Coordinating American Manufacturing Sectors" (Reading Packet)

# J. Rogers Hollingsworth, "Perspective on Social Systems of Production and the Problem of Convergence" (Reading Packet)

# J. Rogers Hollingsworth and Robert Hanneman "Working-class Power and the Political Economy of Western Capitalist Societies" (Reading Packet)

** David Lake "International Economic Structure and American Foreign Economic Policy" (Readings on American Political Economy, Helen C. White)

** Paul Kennedy, "The Relative Decline of America" (Reading Packet)

# Thomas McCormick "World Systems" (Reading Packet)

Consult:


**Core Reading:**

**Core Reading:**
Alfred D. Chandler and Herman Daems, *Managerial Hierarchies,* Chapter 1 (Readings in American Political Economy)

**Consult:**


Alfred D. Chandler, *Scale and Scope,* especially chapters pertaining to the United States.


* Alfred D. Chandler, "The Beginnings of Big Business in American Industry."

February 5: The Changing Structure of American Business

**Core Reading:**
**Naomi R. Lamoreaux, The Great Merger Movement in American Business.**

**Consult:**

* Scott Lash and John Urry, *The End of Organized Capitalism,* Chapters 2 and 3.
* Alfred D. Chandler and Herman Daems, Managerial Hierarchies, Chapters 5-7.

* Gabriel Kolko, The Triumph of Conservatism.


February 12: Technological Change and the Problem of Corporate Control

Core Reading: David F. Noble, America by Design

Consult:
  Donald Stabile, Prophets of Order: the Rise of the New Class: Technocracy and Socialism in America, Chapters One and Two
  See three articles on technology by David F. Noble in Democracy, 1983.
  Langdon Winner, Autonomous Technology: Technics-Out-of-Control as a Theme in Political Thought.

February 19: The Transformation of the American Working Class

Core Reading:
  Harry Braverman, Labor and Monopoly Capitalism. Read selections from ("Readings in American Political Economy.")
  Katherine Stone, "The Origins of Job Structures in the Steel Industry" ("Readings in American Political Economy.")
  Michael Piore and Charles Sabel, "American Shop-floor Control" ("Readings in American Political Economy.")
  Melvin Dubofsky, "Socialism and Syndicalism" ("Readings in American Political Economy")

Craig Littler, The Development of the Labour Process in Capitalist Societies, Chapters 1-4, 11.

Consult:
* David M. Gordon, Richard Edwards, Michael Reich, Segmented Work, Divided Workers: The Historical Transformation of Labor in the U.S.
* Harry Braverman, Labor and Monopoly Capital, Entire book.
* Dan Cawson, Bureaucracy and the Labor process.
* David Montgomery, The Fall of the House of Labor: The Workplace, the State, and American Labor Activism, 1865-1925.
  Alex Keyssar, Out of Work.
* David Montgomery, Workers Control in America.
* David Brody, Workers in Industrial America
  Sharon Hartman Strom, "Challenging Women’s Place: Feminism, the Left, and Industrial Unionism in the 1930s," Feminist Studies, 9 (Summer, 1983), 359-386.


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March 4: Political Structure and Public Policy During the Progressive Era

**Core Reading:**

**#** James Weinstein, *The Corporate Ideal in the Liberal State.*

**#** Martin Sciesl, *The Politics of Efficiency*

**Consult:**

* Gabriel Kolko, *The Triumphs of Conservatism.*


* Raymond Callahan, *Education and the Cult of Efficiency.*

* Richard Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform.*

* Samuel Haber, *Efficiency and Uplift.*


* Robert D. Cuff, *The War Industries Board: Business Government Relations During World War I.*


March 18: Associationalism in the American Economy

**Core Readings:**
- Louis Galambos, *Competition and Cooperation: The Emergence of a National Trade Association.*

**Consult:**


- Robert D. Cuff, *The War Industries Board: Business-Government Relations During World War I.*


March 25: Political Economy of the 1920s

**Core Reading:**
- Ellis W. Hawley, editor, *Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce.*
** Ellis W. Hawley, ed., *Herbert Hoover and the Crisis of American Capitalism*.  

Consult:  
* Louis Galambos, *Competition and Cooperation: The Emergence of a National Trade Association*. (Everyone should consult this book.)


April 1: The Transformation of Work in American Industry

Core Reading:  

Consult:  
Robert Zieger, Republicans and Labor, 1919-1929.
* Stuart Brandes, American Welfare Capitalism.


April 8: Education and the Transformation of the American Economy

Core Reading:
** Harvey Kantor and David Tyack, ed., Work, Youth, and Schooling.

Consult:
* Samuel Bowles and Herbert Gintis, Schooling in Capitalist America: Education Reform and the Contradictions of Economic Life.
* Raymond Callahan, Education and the Cult of Efficiency.
* Robert Freeman Butts, History of Education in American Culture.

David Tyack, The One Best System.


April 15: The New Deal Era, Class, Politics, and the American State

Core Reading:
** Steve Fraser and Gary Gestle, The Rise and Fall of the New Deal Order

Consult:
* Ellis W. Hawley, The New Deal and the Problem of Monopoly.


Richard Kirkendall, *Social Scientists and Farm Politics in the Age of Roosevelt*.


* Frances Fox Piven and Richard Cloward, *Regulating the Poor*.

Rhonda Levine, *Class Struggle and the New Deal*. 
April 22: Financial Markets in Twentieth Century America

Core Reading:
* David M. Kotz, Bank Control of Large Corporations in the United States.

Consult:

Vincent P. Carosso, Investment Banking in America: A History.

Robert J. Larner, Management Control and Large Corporation.

Robert Fitch and Mary Oppenheimer, "Who Rules the Corporations?" Socialist Revolution, I Nos. 4-6, 1970.

Ronald Burt, Corporate Profits and Cooptation: Networks of Market Constraints and Directorate Ties in the American Economy.


April 29: American Labor: From New Deal to the Present

Core Reading:
** Mike Davis, Prisoners of the American Dream

** Try also to read as much as possible of Richard Edwards, Contested Terrain.

Consult:


Nelson Lichtenstein, Labor's War at Home: The CIO in World War II.


Richard Freeman and James L. Medoff, What Do Unions Do?


Roger Keeran, The Communist Party and the Auto Workers Union.
Mark Naison, *Communists in Harlem During the Great Depression*.


Sharon Hartman Strom, "Challenging Women's Place: Feminism, the Left, and Industrial Unionism in the 1930s," *Feminist Studies*, 9 (Summer, 1983), 359-386.


May 6: The Transition from Mass Standardized to Flexible Specialized Systems of Production.

**Core Reading:**

- Michael Piore and Charles Sabel, *The Second Industrial Divide*.

**Consult:**

