

# SOCI 355<sup>1</sup>

## The Corporation, Capitalism, and Globalization

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**Instructor: Dr. Bill Carroll, wcarroll@uvic.ca**

### Course Description:

This course takes a critical approach to the sociological analysis of corporations, capitalism and globalization. We will work through three concise, recent texts plus some readings, all of which view large corporations as centres of power that generate deep disparities within and among nation- states and communities. The agency of corporations is largely responsible for the deepening climate crisis. Corporate power does not go unchallenged; indeed, in recent years grassroots opposition to the rule of transnational capital has burgeoned. In the final section of the course, we take up alternatives to the rule of corporate capital. **This course will be delivered online via zoom, synchronously.**

### Course Outcomes/Objectives:

Students will gain a good rudimentary understanding of the political economy and sociology of corporate capitalism, in Canada and globally. Assignments and activities will support the development of oral and written communication skills and group work, with extensive use of breakout group discussions.

### Course Pre/Co-requisites:

None beyond other 300-level Sociology courses.

### Topics May Include:

Realities of capitalism and the myth of TINA (There Is No Alternative)  
How corporate power works: its economic, political and cultural modalities  
Global capitalism  
Corporations, capitalism and climate crisis  
Platform capitalism (capitalism and the internet)  
Capitalism and covid-19  
Alternatives

### Required Resources May Include:

Carroll, W.K. and J.P. Sapinski (2018) *Organizing the 1%: How Corporate Power Works*. Halifax: Fernwood.  
Gürcan, Efe Can, Ömer Ersin Kahraman, Selen Yanmaz (2021) *COVID-19 and the Future of Capitalism*. Halifax: Fernwood.  
Malleison, Tom (2016) *Fired Up About Capitalism*. Toronto: Between the Lines.

Other resources will be available on Brightspace.

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<sup>1</sup> This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.