Instructor: Dr. Simon Carroll

Course Description:
In this course, students will be introduced to classical sociological theories of the state (Marx, Weber, Durkheim), but will mainly focus on the development of Marxist theories of the state in the 20-21st Centuries, along with critical engagements with those theories, particularly from Feminist theorists and followers of Michel Foucault. Students will also consider sociological theories of resistance and counter-hegemonic political struggles. We will discuss these theoretical contributions in the light of contemporary examples of protest and political resistance to state power, such as with the recent ‘Black Lives Matter’ uprising in response to the killing of George Floyd.

Course Outcomes/Objectives:
Students will learn about the core sociological concepts related to the development of theories of the state, and be able to place them in relation to political and social struggles/movements that are relevant to class, gender, race and environmental politics.

Course Assignments: There will be two course assignments: 1) A take home exam worth 50%; 2) A final paper worth 50%

Course Format: The course will be offered mainly via an asynchronous teaching-learning format, meaning that course materials, including readings, lecture videos and other multi-media resources, will be posted on the UVic online platform, and students can access them on their own time throughout each week. The course will offer two synchronous open office hours/week via the UVic Zoom platform, where students can drop in and ask questions about the course topics and receive additional guidance regarding course assignments (these will be non-private sessions and will be recorded for other students to watch later). There will be opportunities for private Zoom meetings to be arranged separately with individual students.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:
N/A

1 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.
**Topics May Include:**
Classical sociology and the state
Capitalism, the origins of capitalism and the capitalist type of state
Neo-Gramscian approaches to the State
Neo-Foucauldian approaches to governmentality and the state
Feminist theories of the state
Settler colonialism, imperialism and the capitalist state
Race, racialization and the capitalist state
Theories of resistance within and outside the state

**Required Resources May Include:**
*Online platform:*

All resources are posted on the UVic online platform;