Phil 107 Political Philosophy and Social Democracy

- A Study of the Intersection of Politics, Economy, and Social Justice

Topics Examined:

1) The Foundations of Modern Democracy - a study of John Locke’s 2nd Treatise on Government (readings available online) and reflections on the American Revolution (3 weeks).

2) The Critique of State Capitalism - a reading of Marx’s philosophical and economic manuscripts (readings available online) in light of the French Revolution (2 weeks).

3) Protest & Movement Politics - a study of the role of art as emancipatory voice in 20th and 21st century social justice movements (2-3 weeks)

4) The Possible Futures of Politics - reflections on contemporary technologies, democracy, and neo-liberal economic theories. (2-3 weeks)

Readings

With one exception (Han), all the readings will be available online in canvas. If you choose, you can buy most of them digitally or as a paper copy through the campus bookstore. Other retailers carry them as well.

4. Byung-Chul Han, Psycho-Politics. Verso Press, 2017. (Buy this one)