Self, Culture and Society

reading list, Autumn 2023

John Kelly

Part One: Social Science and Social Change,

From Ibn Khaldun’s Cycles to European and American Revolutions

Week One Ibn Khaldun and the idea of social science

1.1 Tuesday orientation to course

1.2 Thursday Ibn Khaldun and “Human Civilization in General”

Ibn Khaldun, *The Muqaddimah* (1377):

from “Introduction” pp.vi-ix.

“Invocation” p.3

“Foreword” pp.5-9

“Book One. Preliminary Remarks” pp.33-43

“Chapter One: Human Civilization in General (first prefatory discussion)” pp.45-48

“Chapter Four: Countries and Cities” esp. sections 1-4 (pp.263-67) & 14-19 (pp.279-291)

Week Two Social Order and Social Science

2.1 Tues Ibn Khaldun’s political economy

Ibn Khaldun, *The Muqaddimah,* continued

“Chapter five: On the various aspects of making a living, such as profit and the crafts”

(entire) pp.297-332

“Chapter three: On dynasties, royal authority” sections 1-6 (pp.123-128) & 35 (war) to 45

(How disintegration befalls dynasties) pp.223-250

2.2 Thurs “When in the course of human events”: reason and revolution

seventeenth to nineteenth-century European and American political documents:

Thomas Jefferson 1776 “Declaration of Independence”

Jefferson and Lafayette 1789 “Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”

Olympe de Gouges 1791 “Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen”

<http://www.felagshyggja.net/MannrettindiKvenna.pdf>

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott 1848 Seneca Falls “Declaration of Sentiments”

The Rise of a Science of Political Economy:

Adam Smith and his World

Week Three Adam Smith’s Political Economy

3.1 Tues trucking, bartering, and the certainty of exchange

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations* (1776)

Introduction and Plan of the Work (pp. xiii-xvi)

Book I Chapters I-III (pp. 3-23)

3.2 Thurs frugals, prodigals, and corporations

Smith, continued

Book I, Chapters IV-IX (pp. 24-43, 53-99)

Book 1, Chapter X, Part II

Book I, Chapter XI, Conclusion (pp. 284-288)

Book II, Chapter III

Week Four Smith, Slavery, and Revolutions

4.1 Tues colonies, corporations, and governments

Smith, continued

Book IV, Chapter IV second half of Part III (Cannan v.II 141-58)

Book IV, Chapter IX (pp. 745-746)

Book V, Chapter I (pp. 819-846) esp. Part III article 1

Conclusion (pp. 876-878)

4.2 Thurs when in the course of human events?

Eric Williams, from *Capitalism and Slavery* (1944)

Chapter 5, “British Industry and The Triangular Trade”

Chapter 6, “The American Revolution”

Revolutionary Social Science:

Karl Marx and His Complexity

Week Five Marx’s historical materialism, critiquing “young Hegelians”

5.1 Tues Alienation

Karl Marx:

1844 “For a Ruthless Criticism of Everything Existing” (ME Reader pp.12-15)

1843 “Contribution to the Critique of Hegel’s *Philosophy of Right:* Introduction” (pp.53-65)

1844 from “Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844” especially “Estranged Labor” (pp.70-

81) and “The Power of Money in Bourgeois Society” (101-105)

5.2 Thurs

Marx:

1845-46 “The German Ideology” esp. pp.146-188

1845 “Theses on Feuerbach” (143-145)

1848 from the *Manifesto of the Communist Party* esp. pp.473-483

Week Six Capital, and Marx’s critique of Political Economy

6.1 Tues Fetishism

Marx, from *Capital, vol 1* (1867)

Part I, Chapter 1 “Commodities” (in ME Reader, pp.302-329)

note: don’t get bogged down in section 3 (312-19). pay particular attention to

section 4, “The Fetishism of Commodities and its Secret” (319-29)

Part II, Chapter IV “The General Formula for Capital” (pp.329-343)

6.2 Thurs

Marx, from *Capital* and other texts

Part IV, chapters 14 “D of L & Manufacture” & 15 “Machinery & Mod. Industry” (388-417)

Part VIII, “Primitive Accumulation” chs XXVI, XXVII, XXXI (431-436)

1873 “After the Revolution: Marx Debates Bakunin” (542-548)

1852 from *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte* (594-617)

Prefaces and Afterwords to *Capital* vol. 1 (294-302)

A Science of Economics? Of Political Economy?

Or What?

Week Seven Realism, Rationalism, and Relativism

7.1 Tues Capitalism, rationality, and this world

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*

“Author’s Introduction,” Chapters I and II.

7.2 Thurs The Protestant Ethic and its historical consequences

Weber, *The PE and the S of C*, continued

Chapter III, Chapter IV through section A “Calvinism”

Week Eight The Politics of Historical Realism, and of Historical Materialism

8.1 Tues The Iron Cage?

Weber, *The PE and the S of C*, completed

Chapter IV, the rest, and especially Chapter V

8.2 Thurs Politics and Science

Weber “Politics as a Vocation”

Marx “On Imperialism in India” (ME reader pp.653-664)

Dadabhai Naoroji from *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India* (1901)“The Condition of India” and

“India Must be Bled” (pp.636-647)

Issues for Our World:

Reconsidering “Globalization”

Week Nine

9.1 no class—study week/break

9.2 no class—study week/break

Week Ten

10.1 Tues An iron cage or what?

Francis Fukuyama 1989 “The End of History?”

Sinnathamby Rajaratnam 1972 “Singapore: Global City”

10.2 Thurs Constituting equity, justice, democracy and the city, now

Arjun Appadurai 2002, “Deep Democracy: Urban Governmentality and the Horizon of Politics”