CT9082W  Capitalism and the Kingdom of God

Offered:  2017: Semester 2
[Listed in TAMS as Economics, Justice and Theology]

This unit aims to equip students with the resources to understand a variety of economic models and to formulate a theological critique of these. The unit will embody a dialogue between the approaches of an economist and a theologian. The relationship between society and the economy will be considered and theological resources such as economic language in the Scriptures, economic models in Scripture and early Christianity, and contemporary Christian social teaching will be explored. In particular, theological critique will be directed to current neo-liberal economic models, bearing in mind issues of distributive justice and economic policy.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:
1. Analyse some of the underlying assumptions of selected economic models;
2. Describe some of the economic dimensions of biblical language and ethics;
3. Discuss the role of Scripture in formulating critiques of economic policy and in exploring alternative economic models;
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of selected contemporary Christian teaching on economic justice.

Prerequisites: One foundational unit in systematic theology
One foundational unit in biblical studies

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment: One tutorial paper (1,000 words) (15%)
One seminar paper (2,000 words) (35%)
One essay (3,000 words) (50%)

Faculty: Jason Goroncy, Jonathon Cornford

Recommended Reading:
* = set texts recommended for purchase