

Economic Democracy Against Economic Crisis: Work and Wealth in the Next Economy



New Course

Fall 2017 Semester

Monday nights at the Murphy Institute at 6:00 pm

To register for this class

CUNY Students - speak to your advisor

New Students- Come to our next Open House

March 13, 2017 at 6:00

25 West 43rd St, 18th floor, NY NY 10030

Lecturer **Evan Casper-Futterman**, With Guest Lectures by **Dario Azzellini**

Course

Description:

In the 1950s, labor unions claimed membership in 35% of the workforce. Today, density of labor unions outside of government employees is 6.7%. This decline in the economic and political power of organized labor begs the question: what other models for worker organizing can be forged that will counteract economic inequality in the 21st century? This course will identify and examine multiple forms of workers' self-management and cooperative enterprises and institutions throughout history, both as a reaction to economic crisis and as a coherent vision for a humane and just society. The course explicitly approaches cooperatives and self-management not as an "alternative business model," but as part of labor history and labor struggles. This reconnects the idea of cooperatives to their origins and shows the potential of cooperatives in putting forward different values for a more just and participatory politics, economics, and society.

This course is cross-listed in both Labor Studies and Urban Studies at the graduate level.