

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PROTEST, RESISTANCE AND CHANGE: ALTERNATIVES TO URBAN CAPITALISM
Status: Definitive
Code: **6019SOCIO** (119710)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019
Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Christopher Allen	Y
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Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 24
Total Delivered Hours: 39
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 201

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	22
Tutorial	6
Workshop	11

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	3,500 word workbook.	75	
Presentation	AS2	10-15 minute group media report.	25	

Aims

1. To critically understand the workings of capitalism in an urban housing context
2. To critically understand the nature and effectiveness of protest and resistance against urban capitalism in the context of historical and contemporary struggles
3. To critically understand the philosophy and practice of radical alternatives to urban

capitalism in the UK and globally

4. To critically appreciate the extent to which living alternatives are limiting the hegemonic reach of capitalism in the UK and globally

5. To critically appreciate the existing potential for achieving political and social change in the UK and globally

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognise and explain how capitalism works in an urban living context
- 2 Identify and explain arguments against capitalism as a system for organising everyday urban life
- 3 Appraise and use radical ideas to critically re-think the organisation of everyday urban life
- 4 Assess the dominance of capitalism by identifying and judging the potential for achieving political and social change within and outside of capitalism
- 5 To verbally discuss and explain urban capitalism and its alternatives with reference to a real world example in Liverpool or another equivalent city

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

3500 Word workbook	1	2	3	4
10-15 mins group media report	5			

Outline Syllabus

Part I: Capitalism and the Housing Question

- *Housing Policy the Housing Question*
- *Urban Sociology and the Housing Question*
- *Neoliberal capitalism and the housing crisis*

Part II: Protest and Resisting Urban Capitalism

- *Conceptualising protest and resistance*
- *Historical struggles against urban capitalism in the UK and globally*
- *Contemporary struggles against urban capitalism and its consequences in the UK and globally*

Part III: Alternatives to Urban Capitalism

- *The philosophical basis of anarchist and environmentalist social thought*
- *Alternative approaches to the Housing Question in the UK and globally*
- *Alternatives and ecological models of living in the UK and globally*

Learning Activities

- 3 Hours of Lectures and workshops per week
- 6 Hours of Report Writing Tutorial spread across the module where students will be given guidance on their completion of a series of workbook tasks.
- Private study and guided reading
- Approximately 10-20% of the course will be delivered 'off-site' so that students can interact with, and learn from, radical activists.
- Campus will be used to facilitate learning activities and interactive discussions, as well as to maintain an up-to-date range of source materials providing coverage of current debates

Notes

This module will enable students to develop a comprehensive understanding of urban capitalism and its alternatives from a critical sociological perspective. The module splits into three parts. Part I provides a critical understanding of how capitalism organises everyday urban life. Part II examines the nature of the struggles that have taken place to find new ways of living more equitably and sustainability. Part III examines alternative modes of thought (such as anarchism and environmentalism) about social and economic organisation, as well as examples of alternative modes of living in the UK and globally

The module consists of two inter-related assessments. The first consists of a workbook based on a series of readings about urban capitalism and its alternatives. Students will complete this each week. Workshop discussions in class will provide a collective feedback / feed forward opportunity that will assist them in completing their workbook successfully.

Students are expected to take their learning from the workbook forward by (a) applying it in the context of a real world example of urban capitalism and its alternatives in the city of Liverpool and (b) developing the confidence to verbally discuss the issues in an eloquent way. To this end, the second assessment requires students to work in groups of 3-5 people to produce a 10-15 minute media report. This media report will be based on the students' chosen site of urban capitalism which they will use to discuss (a) the workings of urban capitalism, (b) the social problems it generates and (c) realistic alternatives that might solve these problems.