

SPRING 2025 ARRIGHI CENTER GENERAL SEMINAR

(version 1/17/2025; see [Arrighi Center Events webpage](#) for any updates)

Theme: “Value, Price and Profit in the Contemporary World System”

Led by Professor Chris Nealon (nealon@jhu.edu)

Fridays, 1:30–3:30 pm

526 Mergenthaler Hall (JHU Homewood Campus)

Sign up [here](#) for zoom option

JHU students interested in taking the seminar for course credit can sign up under 230.676 (for graduate students) or 230.376 (for undergraduate students)

SCHEDULE:

- Jan 24 Introduction to seminar. (Background reading: Marx’s “Value, Price and Profit”)
- Jan 31 Discussion of **Samuel Chambers, *Capitalist Economics***, Oxford University Press, 2022 (selections)
- Feb 7 Discussion of **David Harvey’s, “Rate and Mass”** and of **selections (47 pages) from vol 1 of Marx’s *Capital***: 1) Chapter 7, The Labor Process and The Valorization Process” (pp. 283–306); (2) Chapter 8, “Constant and Variable Capital” (pp. 307–320); (3) Chapter 11, “The Rate and Mass of Surplus Value” (pp. 417–428)
- Feb 14 Discussion of **selections from volume 2 of Marx’s *Capital*** (110 pages): (1) Chapter 5, “Circulation Time” (200–206); Chapter 6, “The Costs of Circulation” (207–229); Chapter 8, “Fixed and Circulating Capital” (pp. 237–261); Chapter 16, “The Turnover of Variable Capital” (pp. 369–394); Chapter 17, “The Circulation of Surplus Value” (pp. 395–424)
- Feb 21 **Discussion with Samuel Chambers (JHU Political Science)** of his book, *Capitalist Economics* and two of his articles: (1) Chambers, “The money array; or, show me the debtor”; and (2) Chambers, “How To Tell The Story Of Crypto (Part I)”
- Feb 28 Discussion of **Rupert Russell’s *Price Wars: How The Commodities Markets Made Our Chaotic World*** (Doubleday Books) 2022.
- March 7 Discussion of **Beverley Best, *The Automatic Fetish: The Law of Value in Marx’s Capital*** (Verso 2024) in preparation for her (in person) visit on March 14.
- March 14: **Discussion (in person) with author Beverley Best** (Concordia University) on her book, *The Automatic Fetish*.
- March 28: Discussion of **Brett Christophers, *The Price Is Wrong: Why Capitalism Won’t Save The Planet*** (Verso 2025).
- April 11 **Discussion (via zoom) with Dr. Richard Saull** (International Politics, University of London, Queen Mary) to discuss his book: ***Capital, Race and Space, Volume II: The Far Right from ‘Post-Fascism’ to Trumpism*** (Haymarket Press, 2024).
- April 18 Paul Kohlbry (tentative) visit from Cornell University

April 25 Final Discussion for Spring 2025 Seminar