

## Annotated Film Bibliography

### Diablo Valley College – POLSC 240 (Political Theory)

Ziv, I. (Producer, Writer, Director). (2014). *Capitalism*. [Documentary]. United States: Icarus Films.

*Capitalism has been the engine of unprecedented economic growth and social transformation. With the fall of the communist states and the triumph of "neo-liberalism," capitalism is by far the world's dominant ideology. But how much do we understand about how it originated, and what makes it work? CAPITALISM is an ambitious and accessible six-part documentary series that looks at both the history of ideas and the social forces that have shaped the capitalist world. Blending interviews with some of the world's great historians, economists, anthropologists, and social critics (view the complete list of participants), with on-the-ground footage shot in twenty-two countries, CAPITALISM questions the myth of the unfettered free market, explores the nature of debt and commodities, and retraces some of the great economic debates of the last 200 years. Each fifty-two minute episode is designed to stand alone, making these ideal for classroom use or as an additional resource for students:*

*Episode 1: Adam Smith, The Birth of the Free Market*

*Capitalism is much more complex than the vision Adam Smith laid out in *The Wealth of Nations*. Indeed, it predates Smith by centuries and took root in the practices of colonialism and the slave trade.*

*Episode 2: The Wealth of Nations: A New Gospel?*

*Adam Smith was both economist and moral philosopher. But his work on morality is largely forgotten, leading to tragic distortions that have shaped our global economic system.*

*Episode 3: Ricardo and Malthus: Did You Say Freedom?*

*The roots of today's global trade agreements lie in the work of stockbroker David Ricardo and demographer Thomas Malthus. Together, they would restructure society in the image of the market.*

*Episode 4: What If Marx Was Right?*

*Have we gotten Marx wrong by focusing on the Communist Manifesto instead of on his critique of how capitalism works - a critique that is relevant and as penetrating as ever?*

*Episode 5: Keynes vs Hayek: A Fake Debate?*

*The ideological divide between the philosophies of John Maynard Keynes and Friedrich Hayek has dominated economics for nearly a century. Is it time for the pendulum to swing back to Keynes? Or do we need a whole new approach that goes beyond this dualism?*

*Episode 6: Karl Polanyi, The Human Factor*

*An exploration of the life and work of Karl Polanyi, who sought to reintegrate society and economy. Could the commodification of labour and money ultimately be as disastrous as floods, drought and earthquakes?*

*CAPITALISM is an impressive series that makes economics accessible through an interdisciplinary approach that explores the work of great thinkers, while embedding economics in specific social, political, and historical contexts. The series can be watched as a whole, but each episode also stands alone. The series features some of the world's top economists,*

*historians, anthropologists, and sociologists, including Thomas Piketty, Noam Chomsky, Yanis Varoufakis, Nicholas Phillipson, Kari Polanyi Levitt, David Graeber, and Abraham Rotstein*

**Butler, S. (Producer and Director). (2006). *Mirrors of privilege: Making whiteness visible*. United States: World Trust Educational Services.**

*Mirrors of Privilege is a film and conversation guide designed to help bridge the gap between good intentions and meaningful change. From Shakti Butler, director of Cracking the Codes: The System of Inequity and The Way Home: Women Talk About Race in America, Mirrors of Privilege features stories from white men and women on overcoming issues of unconscious racism and entitlement. The stories in the film reveal what is often required to move through the stages of denial, defensiveness, guilt, fear and shame into making a solid commitment to ending racial injustice. The conversation guide provides detailed instructions for conveners of discussion groups designed to facilitate open and honest group and private reflection based on the film.*

**Kim, G. (Producer). (2014). *The deep state hiding in plain sight*. [Series Documentary]. United States: Bill Moyers & Company, PBS.**

*Everyone knows about the military-industrial complex, which, in his farewell address, President Eisenhower warned had the potential to “endanger our liberties or democratic process” but have you heard of the “Deep State?” Mike Lofgren, a former GOP congressional staff member with the powerful House and Senate Budget Committees, joins Bill to talk about what he calls the Deep State, a hybrid of corporate America and the national security state, which is “out of control” and “unconstrained.” In it, Lofgren says, elected and unelected figures collude to protect and serve powerful vested interests. “It is ... the red thread that runs through the history of the last three decades. It is how we had deregulation, financialization of the economy, the Wall Street bust, the erosion of our civil liberties and perpetual war,” Lofgren tells Bill. Lofgren says the Deep State’s heart lies in Washington, DC, but its tentacles reach out to Wall Street, which Lofgren describes as “the ultimate backstop to the whole operation,” Silicon Valley and over 400,000 contractors, private citizens who have top-secret security clearances. Like any other bureaucracy, it’s groupthink that drives the Deep State.*

**Norberg-Hodge, H. (Producer and Director). (2011). *The economics of happiness*.**

**[Documentary]. United Kingdom: International Society for Ecology and Culture.**

*Economic globalization has led to a massive expansion in the scale and power of big business and banking. It has also worsened nearly every problem we face: fundamentalism and ethnic conflict; climate chaos and species extinction; financial instability and unemployment. There are personal costs too. For the majority of people on the planet life is becoming increasingly stressful. We have less time for friends and family and we face mounting pressures at work. The Economics of Happiness describes a world moving simultaneously in two opposing directions. On the one hand, government and big business continue to promote globalization and the consolidation of corporate power. At the same time, all around the world people are resisting those policies, demanding a re-regulation of trade and finance—and, far from the old institutions of power, they’re starting to forge a very different future. Communities are coming together to rebuild more human scale, ecological economies based on a new paradigm – an economics of localization. We hear from a chorus of voices from six continents including Samdhong Rinpoche, the Prime Minister of Tibet’s government in exile, Vandana Shiva, Bill McKibben, David*

**Korten and Zac Goldsmith. They tell us that climate change and peak oil give us little choice: we need to localize, to bring the economy home. The good news is that as we move in this direction we will begin not only to heal the earth but also to restore our own sense of well-being. The Economics of Happiness restores our faith in humanity and challenges us to believe that it is possible to build a better world.**

**Green, S. & Siegel, B. (Producers). (2004). *The weather underground*.**

**[Documentary]. San Francisco: KQED Public Television and ITVS.**

**“Hello. I’m going to read a declaration of a state of war...Within the next 14 days we will attack a symbol or institution of American injustice.” – Bernardine Dohrn**  
***Thirty years ago, with these words, a group of young American radicals called The Weathermen announced their intention to overthrow the U.S. government. Fueled by outrage over the Vietnam War and racism in America, they went underground during the 1970’s, bombing targets across the country that they felt symbolized “the real violence” that the U.S. government and capitalist power were wreaking throughout the world. From pitched battles with police on Chicago’s city streets, to bombing the U.S. Capitol building, to breaking acid-guru Timothy Leary out of prison, this carefully organized clandestine network attempted to incite a national revolution, while successfully evading one of the largest manhunts in history. One of the top documentaries of the year, this award-winning film interweaves extensive archival material with modern-day interviews to explore the incredible story of “The Weather Underground.” As former members reflect candidly about the idealistic passion that drove them to “bring the war home,” they paint a compelling portrait of troubled and revolutionary times, with unexpected and often striking connections to the current world situation.***

**Lewis, A. (Director and Producer). (2015). *This changes everything*.**

**[Documentary]. Canada: The Message Productions.**

***Inspired by Naomi Klein's international non-fiction bestseller This Changes Everything, the film presents seven powerful portraits of communities on the front lines, from Montana's Powder River Basin to the Alberta Tar Sands, from the coast of South India to Beijing and beyond. Interwoven with these stories of struggle is Klein's narration, connecting the carbon in the air with the economic system that put it there. Throughout the film, Klein builds to her most controversial and exciting idea: that we can seize the existential crisis of climate change to transform our failed economic system into something radically better.***

**Marie-Monique, R. (Writer and Director). (2010). *Torture: Made in USA*.**

**[Documentary]. Arte France: Galaxy Release Films.**

***Exactly how did the world's most powerful democracy construct and implement a dubious legal framework that not only legalized the use of torture but legitimized it to politicians, academics, intellectuals, and media pundits alike? Who exactly was behind this dark and hotly debated chapter in American history? Internationally acclaimed journalist and filmmaker Robin Marie-Monique set out to investigate the historic events and machinations of key policy leaders that led the U.S. to use systematic torture on a massive scale in Afghanistan, Guantanamo and Iraq in the name of national security and the War on Terror. Mixing stunning archival footage and on-the-ground detective work, the film includes exclusive interviews with several key players including: General Ricardo Sanchez, former commander of the coalition forces in Iraq (who speaks for the first time on camera); Larry Wilkerson, Colin Powell's former Chief of Staff; Matthew Waxman,***

***former advisor to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; Alberto Mora, former US Navy General Counsel; and Michael Scheuer, chief architect of the CIA's Extraordinary Renditions program.***